

# THE JOURNAL

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• Friday, January 7, 2000 • 50 cents (tax included)

**Sports** Cougar boys win Holiday Roundball Classic [C1]

**Inside** Community Folk column and Clara Rae Genser return [C9]


ALBANY HIGH MUSIC teacher Tom Lilienthal sits at the controls of the school's newly equipped digital CD recording studio. Lilienthal is trying to raise \$15,000 to complete construction and setup of the facility.

## High-tech studio at AHS will set records

By James Carter

A state-of-the-art digital recording studio at Albany High School will put the district's music program in a groove and could set the tone for school-to-work instruction across the nation.

The innovative project is the work of AHS instrumental music director Tom Lilienthal. Over the course of two years, Lilienthal has painstakingly created the still-unfinished recording studio piece by piece much like a composer would create a symphony.

Once completed, the cutting-edge fa-

cility will offer opportunities for teens interested in careers in the booming Bay Area music industry, and to district and local bands anxious to record top-of-the-line CDs.

"This is exactly where we want to go at Albany High," said AHS Vice Principal Randy Booker. "This offers another career path for students, a vocational skill that fits right in with our efforts to develop a digital high school."

"When it comes to music, the opportunities that are available out in the world in recording and post production — well, it's a booming industry," Booker

said. "It will also provide a chance for kids who might not play an instrument to get involved in music. It's fantastic."

Currently there are over 20 professional recording studios in San Francisco, Berkeley, Oakland, and Emeryville alone, including Fantasy Records, a long-established but still-growing giant.

Albany High's foray into the high tech field got a boost by a grant from the AHS Site Council two years ago, several student fund-raising events, and contributions from parents and members of the

See STUDIO, Page A9

## Albany will split Key Route despite logistical speed bumps

Traffic lanes will shift to one side of median to facilitate school construction

By James Carter

ALBANY — The City Council voted Monday night to close the northbound lane of Key Route Boulevard from Portland Avenue to Thousand Oaks Boulevard until Jan. 31, 2001, in order to pro-

vide a "staging area" for construction of the new high school.

Pending approval of the school board, the closure should become effective in about a month.

After an extensive question-and-answer period, the council agreed to convert the southbound (eastern) side of the 600 block of Key Route Boulevard into a two-way street until the new high school is completed.

No parking will be allowed on the median side of the street in order to allow space for two-way traffic and the street

See KEY ROUTE, Page A10

## Parking restrictions planned for west El Cerrito

Residents seek relief from commuter parking

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — Later this month, the City Council will consider a plan to limit parking in a small residential section of the city west of Interstate 80.

People in the neighborhood west of the freeway and south of Potrero Avenue have complained off and on for years about BART commuters and others parking for long periods of time in the area.

At its Jan. 18 meeting, the City Coun-

cil will consider a plan calling for four-hour street parking limits for non-residents. "No parking" red zones at intersections for safety and visibility will also be considered. There is a similar zone around the Plaza BART station.

Area residents complain of parkers blocking driveways and drivers speeding through their streets.

"If they had more respect for our neighborhood it would be different, but they don't," said 55-year-old Earline Miles, a 25-year resident of the area. Miles pointed to cars parked on the street in front of her School Avenue home and complained it is often difficult for her to find parking.

See PARKING, Page A9

## Albany school district charges city with breach of contract

By James Carter

ALBANY — The Albany Unified School District is charging that the city breached a contract when it sold the district property where the new middle school stands, and wants \$51,725.48 in abatement costs the district incurred cleaning up contaminated soil there.

Attorneys for the school district claim

that after purchasing the property from the city Jan. 9, 1996, district officials learned soil was contaminated by what was described as "remaining petroleum residue."

Prior to the sale of the Brighton Avenue property, the city removed an underground fuel storage tank there and provided copies of documents relating to its removal to the district.

"In the 1996 Purchase and Sale

Agreement between the city and the district, the city warranted that, to the best of its knowledge, the property was free of soil contamination," read a letter dated Nov. 5, 1999, sent to city officials by Thomas Riggs.

Riggs is an attorney with the firm Lozano Smith, which represents the district in this matter.

City Attorney Robert Zweben said Albany is currently in the process of con-

ducting "a fact-finding review."

"When we sold (the land) to the district, we hired an environmental consultant who did soil sampling," Zweben said. The results of tests conducted by the firm revealed soil on the property did not require remediation, he said.

According to Assistant Superintendent Connie Hubbard, the district "is negotiating with the city and hopes to work things out. The (toxic site) has already

been cleaned up."

Hubbard said that when workers were clearing the site in preparation for construction, "they found some soil that had a funny odor. We had it checked and hauled away."

According to the letter of complaint, nearly \$52,000 was spent cleaning the site.

See CONTRACT, Page A10

## And now you'll know the rest of the story

By Martin Snapp

**Editor's note:** Due to a pressroom error, part of the continuation of "Fortunate sons and daughters," last week's profiles on people who helped shape our community over the past 100 years, was swapped with a page from our Berkeley newspaper. Here are the profiles that were omitted. We apologize to our readers and thank everyone who called or wrote in.

### William Woolworth

It's hard to believe, but there once was a time when the Albany public schools were considered to be the worst in the East Bay. There was serious talk of merging with the Berkeley school district so Albany children could finally get a decent education. In 1929, a ballot measure

to merge with Berkeley barely lost by only 225 votes.

How times have changed! Today, parents all over the East Bay are scrambling to get phony Albany addresses so they can send their kids to Albany schools. And the person who, more than anyone else, exemplifies that change is Bill Woolworth, the longtime teacher and principal at Cornell School.

Woolworth grew up in Oakland and graduated from Oakland High in 1926. He got his B.A. from Cal in 1930 and his teaching credential in 1932.

Despite the Depression, he was hired to teach at Cornell for the princely salary of \$1,200 a year, plus another \$120 for being playground director. Two years later he moved to Albany High, mostly because the salary was \$450 per year larger. This pay disparity between elementary and high school rankled him for years, until he finally convinced the school board to establish a uniform salary schedule based on education and experience.

At Albany High he taught English, Social Studies and Public Speaking, as well as coaching the basketball team. But in 1938 he returned to Cornell, this time as principal.

It was also the year he fell in love with another teacher, Miss Billie Bell. After a whirlwind courtship they were married

— much to the chagrin of the school board, which took a dim view of having a husband and wife on the same staff. This being the pre-Betty Friedman era, Billie was forced to resign.

Woolworth guided Cornell through the rest of the decade and the traumatic World War II years that followed. At the time there was great concern that the Japanese would bomb the Richmond shipyards, so the children at Cornell were subjected to endless air raid drills. Over and over, they were required to file into a darkened auditorium and sit with their heads between their legs to prevent being cut by flying glass.

Woolworth hated those drills. For the children, it was a truly terrifying experience. Besides, he doubted the procedures would be of much help in an actual air raid.

Perhaps that's why he founded the Albany chapter of American Field Service, which has brought scores of foreign students to Albany and sent scores of Albany students to other countries in an attempt to promote international understanding. "Unless the nations of the world are willing to make some adjustments," he liked to say, "we are going to be in trouble for a long time."

See FORTUNATE, Page A8



ALBANY EDUCATORS William and Billie Woolworth.

INDEX	
■ Calendar	Page C5
■ Crossword	Page C5
■ Martin Snapp	Page A8
■ Opinion	Page A6
■ PTA News	Page A7



## WORTH CHECKING OUT

### Young virtuosos

Experience tomorrow's virtuosos today through Albany High School's Classical Music Club. Presenting "Young Virtuosos in Concert," the concert will feature student musicians on piano, violin, clarinet, trumpet and voice. Rehearse the music of Bach, Mozart and Beethoven at 8 p.m. tonight (Friday, Jan. 7) in the AHS Little Theater. Tickets are \$3 students and seniors, \$5 adults. Proceeds will be used to fund future club field trips. Details: Joan Sextro at 510-559-6550, ext. 6588.

### WCCUSD board meetings

As of this week the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education will meet in the cafeteria of John F. Kennedy High, 4300 Cutting Blvd., in Richmond for all regularly scheduled board meetings. Public session begins at 7 p.m.

### Soroptimists meeting

Soroptimists International of El Cerrito will meet on Jan. 18 at noon at Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, 7901 Cutting Blvd. in El Cerrito. Details: Barbara Lanier, president, 527-7070.

### Teacher of Year speaks

California's National State Teacher of the Year for 1999, Bill Pence, will be guest speaker at a joint PTA program to be held on Thursday, Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at Portola Middle School Gymnasium, 1021 Navallier St. in El Cerrito. For more information contact Kensington PTA President, Terry Morioka, (510) 271-7289. Pence is a Life Sciences Teacher at California High School in the San Ramon Unified School District. At California High since 1976, Pence has won many teaching honors. In 1995 a Genentech program called Access Excellence named him one of 100 fellows picked nationally from over 9000 applicants. The following year, the National Science Teacher Association named Pence one of the country's top biology

teachers. At that convention, he was honored as one of the top 100 math and science teachers in the nation by a program sponsored by the Tandy Corporation.

### Handel Extravaganza

Hausmusik presents "A Handel Extravaganza: A Sumptuous Banquet of Musical Delights with Secular Songs, Cantatas and Trio Sonatas," featuring Jennifer Ellis, soprano; Lisa Grodin and Carla Moore, violin; Tanya Tomkins, cello; Hanneke van Proosdij, harpsichord and organ on Saturday, Jan. 8, 8 p.m. at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington St., Albany, \$17 (general), \$14 (SEMS, ARS, EMA, students, seniors). Advance reservations recommended. Call 559-4670 for tickets and information. Wheelchair accessible.

### East Bay Moms

East Bay Moms will host its second annual Preschool & Child Care Fair on Saturday, Jan. 22 from 10-2 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Center located at 1547 Lakeside Drive at Lake Merritt in Oakland. Parents will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from more than 30 preschools and child care programs located in Oakland, Berkeley, Albany, Kensington, Alameda, El Cerrito and El Sobrante. These programs offer a variety of options, including different educational philosophies, part-time and full-time care as well as serving children from infancy through elementary school. Adult admission is \$2 for East Bay Moms members and \$3 for non-members and includes a directory of participating programs. Children are welcome and will be admitted free. Details: 663-7867 or visit their Web site at [www.eastbaymoms.com](http://www.eastbaymoms.com).

### Magic Mike in Albany

The Buddy Club hosts local legend Magic Mike in its latest kids' show on Jan. 23 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin

Ave., Tickets: \$7 (under 2 free). Details: 652-7469.

### Web site energy bill aid

Homeowners can save hundreds of dollars each year on their energy bills by using the Home Energy Saver Internet site at <http://HomeEnergySaver.lbl.gov>. The site was developed by the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory to help consumers determine how much energy their homes use. Based on questions and answers on the site, recommendations are given on how to make improvements. The site's "making it happen" section provides time-saving links to hundreds of Internet sites with practical, detailed information about energy-efficient homes, products, service providers, utility programs, and online reading materials. The site also provides e-mail access to energy experts who answer questions from users.

### Picture Poems

"Picture Poems" by Sharyl Gates is on exhibit through Jan. 15 at Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave. Sharyl Gates, artist, poet, and illustrator, will have 3-foot and 4-foot acrylic on canvas "words and painting" and poetic pieces in showcase created published and present, 1985-1999. For more information or to be on mailing list for future exhibits phone or fax 527-9374, or write to P.O. Box 2082, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

### String quartet

The Arlekin String Quartet plays music by Haydn, Shostakovich, Brahms and others, at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley, on Sunday, Jan. 9 at 3 p.m. The concert is given to help support the musical program offered by the Young People's Chamber Orchestra to Young Bay Area String Musicians. A suggested donation of \$20 for adults and \$5 for students up through age 15, is requested. Refreshments follow. For further information, please call 595-4688.

## Cache of weapons found after incident

EL CERRITO—Early in the morning of Jan. 2, a man in the backyard of his home on the 1300 block of Rifle Range fired off blasts from a rifle then retreated inside. Police arrived and, using the telephone, convinced him to surrender. However, there was a short standoff as the man emerged, his hands behind his back, but refused to lay down or lift his arms above his head. Police finally seized the man, took him into custody, then searched his home where they uncovered 16 rifles and handguns and hundreds of rounds of ammunition.

A 19-year-old man led police on a wild car chase Dec. 31. When officers gained ground near the 1700 block of Walnut Street, he skidded to a stop, bolted from his automobile, and raced up the block, hurtling over several fences before taking shelter in a neighbor's yard. Police soon found him hiding there and arrested him.

At 9:27 p.m. on Dec. 29, a man in his mid-20s strolled into the Best Inn on Potrero Avenue and flashed a black semi-automatic handgun at the receptionist. The gunman leaped over the counter, cleaned out the cash register, stuffed the loot into a Christmas bag, and fled. Police have excellent photographs of the crook filmed live and in color.

A woman walking across the Safeway parking lot the evening of Dec. 26 was struck by a hit-and-run

driver. The victim was knocked to the ground resulting in a head injury that required hospitalization.

A thief kicked in the front door of a home on the 2300 block of Alva Avenue Christmas Day and ripped off property from residents away from the day.

On Christmas Eve, a crook broke into a car parked on the 2600 block of Brooks Avenue and stole an in-dash stereo. Another automobile parked on the same block was also burglarized, apparently during the same time period, when an unknown suspect — possibly the same thief — stole an entire car stereo system from the car.

A 37-year-old woman disguised in sun glasses attempted to cash a forged check at the Bank of America on San Pablo Avenue Dec. 22. She apparently caught wind of a call made to police and fled before an officer arrived.

Two teens sitting at a table just outside of Der Wienerschnitzel burst into that business as employees were closing Dec. 19. At gunpoint, they ordered employees to stretch out on the floor, searched the terrified workers, emptied out two cash drawers and fled. The suspects are described as two Asians, between 16 and 19 years old. According to the police, one had a shaved head, a wiry build and a thin moustache, while the second suspect, also a teen, wore his hair down to his neck, was clean

### POLICE REPORT

shaven, of medium build, and a beanie cap. Both are wanted for armed robbery.

That same evening a group of two robbers brandishing guns burst into Nations and ordered everyone to stretch out on the floor. One thief vaulted the counter and dered a clerk to open two registers. Then scooped up all the cash in two then made a run for it, took south on Carlson Boulevard, where they climbed into a white car and raced off. Witnesses said the first suspect was an African American male, between 25 and 30 years old, nearly 6 feet tall, wearing a parka, a thin mask, and a beard. The second suspect was described as an African American male, approximately 5 foot 10 inches tall.

A highwayman approach manager at Carrows Restaurant 17, then pulled out an unpolished revolver. The thief waved the weapon in the air, cocked the hammer back, took aim and demanded the employee clean out the cash in hand, the crook fled. The suspect is described as a white male in his mid-40s, 5-foot-6 tall, approximately 150 pounds, with medium-length hair, unshaven, a gray mustache. He was wearing a hooded zip-up sweater and jeans.

## Second street business burglarized

By K. Osborn

ALBANY — On the night of Dec. 26 a resident on the 1400 block of Posen Avenue reported that thieves had burglarized their home during the afternoon. There were no witnesses.

At about 4 a.m. on Dec. 27 officers stopped a silver '81 Volkswagen Rabbit on Buchanan Street near Polk Street, for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 40-year-old Albany woman, was found to have outstanding warrants from San Francisco and was on probation from Alameda County. She was also found to have drug paraphernalia in her car. She was arrested, cited and released with a Notice to Appear.

On the morning of Dec. 27 a business on the 1000 block of Second Street reported that thieves had entered their business and stole mechanic tools and numerous other items. There were no witnesses.

On the afternoon of Dec. 27 officers stopped a red '83 Ford Escort

near Buchanan Street and San Pablo Avenue for a traffic violation. The driver, a 19-year-old Oakland man, was found to be driving without a license. He was arrested, cited and released with a Notice to Appear.

On the afternoon of Dec. 28 a resident on the 400 block of Evelyn Avenue reported that during the night thieves broke into her home and stole various items. There were no witnesses.

On the night of Dec. 29 a resident on the 1100 block Ordway Street reported that thieves had broken into her white Toyota Camry that was parked in front of her home. They stole various items and departed unseen.

At about 11:15 a.m. on Dec. 30 an El Cerrito man reported that while his car was parked in the parking lot of the Albany Bowl on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue, vandals smashed one of the windows. There were no witnesses.

Just before midnight on Dec. 31 officers investigated suspicious

activity at the Burger Depot on the 1100 block of Solano Avenue. A 21-year-old Berkeley man who was intoxicated and driving garbage. He was arrested, cited and released when sober.

At about 1:30 a.m. on Jan. 1 officers stopped a black '97 Honda Civic driving on San Pablo Avenue near Marin Avenue. The driver, a 21-year-old Richmond man, was found to be intoxicated. He was arrested and cited to be released when sober.

During the week of Dec. 2, Albany officers towed two cars suspended to eight false alarms, responded to four lost or deced animals, assisted three people who were locked out of their houses and responded to five reports of barking dogs. In the domestic violence unit, 12 reports of domestic disturbances and 78 civil complaints. Albany officers stopped 98 vehicles issuing 51 citations and 47 warrants. Albany firefighters/paramedics responded to one fire call and medical emergencies.

## Winner named in drawing for bicycle

### Albany Chamber

By Roxanne Wiley

On Dec. 20, the drawing was held for the first, second and third prize winners.

Our esteemed board member and ex-mayor of Albany Jerry Blank picked the winners.

First place went to Gayle Davis, Eric Ashley won second place and some lucky person at the Village, as yet unnamed by them won third place. The helmets were donated by the Albany Fire Department.

### Christmas lights

The stringing of Christmas lights on the lamp poles on lower Solano was not totally successful.

For one thing, some people could not resist plucking out a bulb or two, which then would render part of the string dark. I personally tried to keep up with the unlighted strings but found it a losing proposition.

Another hitch in the process is that for two blocks between Cornell and Evelyn, the northern side of the street was unlit all of the time.

The city folks tried to fix the problem but it still needs work.

Many people were delighted with the lights, and for that, we are appreciative.

Next year we will have to figure



SELECTING THE WINNING tickets were Jerry Blank and his office manager, Cathleen Chambers

out a better way to have all of the lights lit all of the time.

### Pool employee of month

Laurie Grinnell was selected as the November super employee. Laurie is responsible, personable and has a good

attitude, even at 6:30 a.m. Go Laurie!

### Reminder

On Jan. 16 from 1-4 p.m. at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Mason Ave., the Gene Doll extravaganza hosted by the Brass Horse.

## PEOPLE

### Soosan Nichols

Soosan N. Nichols, daughter of Nowrouzi Rouhollah of El Cerrito, has joined the United States Army under the "Delayed Entry Program" at the U.S. Army Recruiting Station, Crystal, Minn.

The program gives young men and women the opportunity to delay entering active duty for up to one year.

The enlistment gives the new soldier the option to learn a new skill, travel and become eligible to receive as much as \$50,000 toward a college education.

After completion of basic military training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career specialty.

The recruit qualifies for an \$8,000 enlistment bonus.

Nichols is a 1998 graduate of the University of Minnesota, St. Paul.

She reported in November to Fort Leonard Wood, Waynesville, Mo., for basic training.

### John R. Hall

El Cerrito Royale, a Summerville Senior Living community at 6510 Gladys Ave., has appointed John R. Hall as executive director.

Hall transfers to El Cerrito Royale from his position as executive director of Landmark Villa, a Summerville Senior Living community in Hayward.

Previously, Hall worked as an executive director for ARV Assisted Living and as administrator of Nursing Inn of Menlo Park.



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## Counseling helps consumers end debt spiral

By Stephanie Wright

The decorations have been packed away, the whirlwind of parties is over and the recent holiday season is now a remembrance.

But for many, the New Year brings with it a substantial amount of post-holiday debt.

For some it will be manageable, for others overwhelming, producing enough worry and anxiety to overshadow a person's daily life.

"There are lots of reasons people get in over their heads — loss of a job, a divorce, medical problems and inefficient use of credit," said Shirley Dean, marketing director for Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the East Bay. "It's not because we're bad people but no one teaches us in society how to manage our money."

And that's where this nonprofit organization comes in. Headquartered in Oakland with 14 offices throughout Contra Costa, Solano and

Alameda counties, it offers a variety of services.

There's a low-cost debt management program, and credit counseling, budget counseling and money management education, which are free of charge. In addition it offers a delinquent/default housing program, a first-time buyers program and a credit report review service for a nominal cost.

Based on a sliding scale, fees for the debt management program range from zero to \$20 and are based on the client's ability to pay.

"It's for somebody who's gotten into too much credit debt for them to handle on their own," said Dean. "They're struggling to make the min-

### WORK OUT OF DEBT

What: Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the East Bay

Where: Headquartered in Oakland with 14 offices throughout Contra Costa, Solano and Alameda counties

Information: Call 800-501-7238

imum payments and maybe couple of months behind."

Clients meet with a credit

See DEBT, Page A9

## THE JOURNAL

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# Alta Bates-Summit merge after court throws out injunction

By Marc Albert

Berkeley's Alta Bates and Oak-land's Summit medical centers merged Monday, hours after Federal District Judge Maxine Chesney re-jected a request for a preliminary in-junction blocking the merger by Cal-ifornia Attorney General Bill Lockyer. Chesney's ruling was issued with- out much detail. A full decision is ex-pected to follow, but it is unclear when it will be released.

"It's all a done deal, we did the merging yesterday," said Alta Bates spokesperson Carolyn Kemp Tues- day. "We are now merged with Sum- mit, and Summit is now happily part of Sutter Health."

The merger makes Summit the medical facility to join Sacra-mento-based Sutter Health.

The merger marks the last of a wave of East Bay hospital consoli- dations. Alta Bates absorbed Herrick

Hospital a decade ago. Summit was formed in 1992 by the merger of Providence with Merritt-Peralta Hos- pital. Merritt and Peralta had merged earlier.

Lockyer spokesperson Sandra Mi- chiochi said the Attorney General's office has taken a wait-and-see po- sition. "The judge declined to block the merger but what we are await- ing is the actual decision to deter- mine if there should be an appeal or what the next step might be," she said.

Lockyer moved to oppose the merger Aug. 10 arguing the merger would violate federal anti-trust leg- islation.

Lockyer argued reduced competi- tion would result in a price hike be- tween 5 percent and 10 percent.

The combination leaves the re- gion with only one competitor— Kaiser Permanente.

During the October trial, state at-

torneys argued that a merger would give the new entity 50 percent of the health care market in northern Alameda and parts of Contra Costa County.

Lockyer joined local officials in fearing the merger would result in increased prices and decreased ser- vices.

Lawyers for Summit and Alta Bates countered that the affiliation would actually preserve hospital choice by ensuring the long-term fi- nancial health of both facilities, which lost a combined \$19.1 million last year.

Officials are also concerned about effects should Kaiser Permanente carry out its plans to close its Oak- land hospital and complete the trans- fer of in-patient services to Alta Bates and Summit.

Kemp said the new entity, which has yet to choose a name will keep all services and will create savings

by merging administrative functions such as accounting and public rela- tions at both facilities. "There will continue to be emergency rooms, critical care, women and infant ser- vices at both campuses. The board is very concerned about retaining lo- cal control and keeping services and hopefully expanding them now that we are together...there is so much potential here and we are very ex- cited about that," Kemp said.

Summit Chief Executive Officer Irwin Hansen issued said he was "ex- tremely pleased" with the decision.

The Health Care Workers Union, Local 250 SEIU has been one of the fiercest opponents of the deal. Pres- ident Sal Rosselli said the issue has never been about job losses.

"Our position remains the same: this will cause problems for con- sumers," Rosselli said. "It will reduce access to health care, increase prices and eliminate competition."

## EL CERRITO IN BRIEF

### New stops

After requests from area residents, the City Council last week approved stop signs at three southeast El Cer- rito intersections. New stop signs at Village Drive, Balra Drive and Bon- nie Drive where each street intersects with Seaview Drive were unani- mously approved by the council.

A report by Interim Maintenance and Engineering Services Manager Bruce King states that traffic engi- neer consultants hired by the city recommended a change. "Their re- port concluded that Bonnie, Balra and Village drives should be mod- ified to clearly designate who has the right of way at those intersections," King reported to the council.

King noted that Seaview Drive "is a high volume collector street which is steeply inclined along these three intersections" and that the angles of the intersections, limited sight dis- tances and vehicular speeds along Seaview were contributing factors.

### Clearing the air

Thanks to a 1996 grant from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, El Cerrito has 52 new signs, four ramps and 14 bicycle racks in the city as part of the Ohlone Greenway Pathfinder Program. The grant also funded light- ing and striping improvements to in- crease bicycle use along the greenway.

Community Development Manager Gerald Raycraft reported earlier this month to the City Council about the grant accomplishments. Raycraft said the city is in the process of closing out the Transportation Fund for Clean Air grant, which will total about \$46,659 for El Cerrito. One additional project — a location sign with local map to points of destination — should be in- stalled using money from the grant, pending completion of the design and BART approval, Raycraft said.

He reported that due to "timing issues and limited staff resources" the city was not able to undertake two projects in the initial grant ap- plication — construction of a bicycle parking facility at the Del Norte BART station and construction of ramps from the greenway into the El Cerrito Plaza. There is a bicycle parking facility currently being de- veloped at the Plaza BART station.

"Regarding the ramps into the Plaza, we simply could not have the

facility designed and constructed in the available time, so we now are hoping the improvement gets built as part of the private redevelopment of the Plaza," Raycraft said in his report.

### Wildcat Drive

The slide at Wildcat Drive on El Cerrito's extreme eastern border re- mains a problem and city officials and staff continue to seek federal and state assistance to stabilize the hillside and fix the roadbed. Last month, City Man- ager Gary Pokorny, Fire Chief Mark Scott, Interim Maintenance and En- gineering Services Manager Bruce King and Community Development Manager Gerald Raycraft met with Brian Weinberger, an aide to State Sen- ator Don Perata to discuss the Wild- cat Drive situation and visit the site.

In a report to the City Council, Raycraft said the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has said it will provide an additional \$18,000 for road repairs, bringing fed- eral funds available for the project to about \$35,000. "Unfortunately, the re- pair of the slide area remains our obligation," Raycraft informed the council. The estimated cost to fix the current failed portion of the roadway is \$377,000 and another \$442,000 is needed to stabilize the balance of the roadway, Raycraft reported.

The meeting with Weinberger was described as "constructive." Raycraft said the city hopes to convince Per- ata that either the state Office of Emergency Services should pressure FEMA to fund the repair or that the project be included in the state's fis- cal year 2000-2001 budget.

### MLK Day parade, rally

Today is the deadline to RSVP to participate in El Cerrito's annual Mar- tin Luther King Jr. Day Parade and rally, scheduled for Monday Jan. 17. Assembly is at 10 a.m. at the El Cer- rito DMV parking lot and the parade starts at 11 a.m. This year's theme is Committed to the Dream Through 2000 — Cherishing Family and Com- munity Values. Organizers invite any interested community members to participate and in particular are seek- ing the talents of marching bands, pep squads, cheerleaders, choirs, singing groups, talented speakers, writers and poets. Details or to RSVP: Barbara G. Davis, 237-5749; or Pa- tricia Durham, 234-2518.

## IN BRIEF

### OEB Symphony performance

The City of Richmond presents the Oakland East Bay Symphony with Michael Morgan as director and conductor on Saturday, Jan. 29, 8 p.m. at Richmond Memorial Auditorium, Bar- rett Avenue at 25th Street in Richmond.

The program includes Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, "Jupiter" Sym- phony No. 41; Peter Knell, Fanfares and Fantasies, performed for the sec- ond time ever; Samuel Sarben, Knoxville; Summer of 1915, based on the Pulitzer prize-winning novel by James Agee, with soprano Cyn- thia Clayton; Antonin Dvorak, Sym- phonic Variations.

Tickets are available at Recreation and Parks, 3230 Macdonald Ave. in Richmond, or by calling 620-6792; and at all TicketMaster locations. Tickets are priced at \$12.50 for adults, \$10 seniors, and \$5 children six to 12.

The next performance is April 16 at 2 p.m.

### Folkdance Group

The Albany Y International Folk-

dance Group is starting its beginning folkdance series of classes Friday, Jan. 7. The classes will meet Fridays from 9 to 11 p.m. at the YMCA at 921 Kains, one block from Solano and San Pablo in Albany, and run for two months.

Admission each week is \$4 for adults, \$1 for teens 12-17. No com- mitment is required. Pay each time you come.

Everyone is welcome, especially beginners, and no partners are nec- essary. Most dances are line dances from Greece and the Balkans, Ro- mania and Israel, with a sprinkling of dances from other countries.

This class series will be taught by Asha Goldberg and Mel Harte in January, and Gertrude Khuner and Neal Sandler in February.

Folkdancing includes both fast and energetic dances as well as slow and lyrical ones. It's a fun way to get aerobic exercise.

Each class starts with teaching from 8 till about 9. Folkdancing to requests, for beginners as well as more advanced dancers, starts at about 9.

For more information, contact Asha Goldberg at 547-6355.

# El Cerrito redevelopment agency transition planned

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — The Redevel- opment Agency Board unanimously ap- proved Dec. 20 to prepare a Redevel- opment Agency transition plan that will address such matters as how and under what circumstances Redevel- opment Agency will come out of hiatus.

The Agency Board decided the redevel- opment implementation plan currently being drafted will "incor- porate" the transition plan and "cross reference" with the economic devel- opment program to "demonstrate how the agency supports economic development."

A recommendation submitted ear- lier this month to the City Coun- cil/Redevelopment Agency Board by the Services for the 21st Century Committee of the Whole (CotW), pointed out that the April 1999 mo- tion to place the agency into hiatus also called for a transition plan "to take the (Redevelopment Agency) from active to passive status." The Redevelopment Agency was placed into hiatus until its \$780,000 debt to the city is paid. The committee rec- ommendation notes that the required transition plan has not been forth- coming and adds "we respectfully re- quest council address this oversight at its first available opportunity."

In the recommendation, the CotW suggested the transition plan address certain items, including the amount to be repaid to the city and timetable

for repayment. It also suggests the plan list the specific redevelopment projects considered to be "grand fa- thered" into the redevelopment process, how city staff hours are to be charged and accounted for when working on redevelopment projects and how and under what circum- stances the agency will transition back to active status.

Taking action last week, the City Council/Agency Board directed staff to prepare the plan and address the CotW suggestions. In a report to the Agency Board, Economic Develop- ment Manager Elisa Tierney pointed out that staff is currently working with a consultant and Councilman Larry Damon to prepare an imple- mentation plan for the agency. Tier-

ney said Damon "has been assisting staff in this effort and has offered suggested changes to the imple- mentation plan" that would, in effect, incorporate the transition plan into the implementation plan.

"If we don't use this opportunity for a five-year implementation plan to pull us all together on these various programs — then I ask you — what opportunity are we going to use to do that?," Damon asked his col- leagues at last week's meeting. In a later talk, he said that when the transi- tion plan is integrated into the legally required implementation plan "then we have a redevelopment agency five-year plan that is posi- tioned to support economic devel- opment."

## El Cerritans rally for Peet's at Plaza

By Kate Darby Rauch

EL CERRITO — The people have spoken. Now the future is in the tea leaves, or coffee grounds, depending on your cup.

The aging and mostly vacant El Cerrito Plaza shopping center is about to get a major facelift, complete with rows of new stores. One of them is slated to be a gourmet coffee shop, with fancy coffee beans, espresso drinks, sweet things to nibble, the works.

The future cafe owner hasn't been decided yet. But residents have ex- pressed their opinions to City Hall and the plaza renovation developer via let- ters and messages. Many were re- sponding to rumors that their city would be home to either a Peet's or a Starbucks, two well-known coffee com- petitors with numerous stores in the Bay Area, but none in El Cerrito.

Plaza developer Ron Holley said there's no mistaking the people's pre- ference.

"We've gotten a considerable amount of public interest in Peet's over Starbucks," Holley said. "That's regis- tered with us. We've made an offer to Peet's." City Hall has received similar letters, which are forwarded to the developer, said Jerry Raycraft, commu- nity services director. The plaza reno- vation is a private project. Holley, who is based in Southern California, said he is pleased with the quality of both coffee purveyors and wouldn't mind leasing a spot to either one. Initially Peet's wasn't interested, he said, and

Starbucks was. No one from Starbucks corporate office could be reached Mon- day for comment, but Holley said the business is now interested in setting up shop at El Cerrito Plaza.

Meredith Markman, Peet's spokes- woman, said Monday the company is considering Holley's offer.

A review of letters shows that many Peet's advocates say they support Peet's because it is local and is a smaller operation than global Star- bucks. Some say they enjoy the am- biance of Peet's more than Starbucks. Others say they favor the flavor of Peet's coffees.

"We fervently hope you will add class to our new center with a Peet's coffee shop rather than a tacky chain outlet like Starbucks," wrote El Cer- rito resident Armand Boulay in a let- ter to Holley, echoing the sentiments of many others.

Peet's started on Vine Street in Berkeley in 1966. The Emeryville-based business, which has since changed ownership, has 53 stores. Most are in the Bay Area, with others in Southern California, Boston, Chicago and Port- land, Ore. Markman said that while Peet's is seeking to expand its retail stores, its focus is on selling coffee beans more than coffee beverages. Bean orders, she said, are sold through the Internet and mass mailings as well.

Starbucks, a Seattle-based com- pany, began in 1971 and now has about 2,200 locations worldwide. The fast-growing company went from 17 stores in 1987 to 1,412 within a 10-year pe- riod alone.

## Multicultural, interfaith prayer breakfast will celebrate King Day

The YMCA of the East Bay will host multicultural, interfaith prayer break- fast on Wednesday, Jan. 12, in celebra- tion of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The breakfast will be held at the Oakland Mar-riott Hotel and begins at 7:30 a.m.

Members of Buddhist, Catholic, Is- lam, Jewish and Protestant faith com- munities throughout the East Bay will come together for a vibrant program of spiritual music, spiritual reflection and a unique interfaith exchange of prayer requests. The Oakland Interfaith Chapel Choir and Japanese drum en- semble, Gen Taiko, will perform.

The event promotes the YMCA of the East Bay's stated goal to "be a catalyst for community development" and "ini- tiate, promote and facilitate harmonious relations between the diverse cultures of East Bay community."

"Preserving dignity and respect for life, work and ideals of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is an important and worthwhile endeavor" said Oakland City Manager Robert C. Bobb, who is a mem- ber of the YMCA Board of Directors and the breakfast chairman. "Sisters and brothers from various faith and cultural traditions, celebrating together the spirit of justice, equality and peace is what King dreamed about and is also something for which the YMCA stands."

The Prayer Breakfast this year marks the third celebration of King Day by the YMCA of the East Bay. "Many people are saying that the digital divide may well be the most significant civil rights issue of the new millennium," said Dr. Dan Tanita, San Pablo dentist, who chairs the YMCAs Association Advancement Com- mittee that sponsors the breakfast. Other members of the committee include Do- nald Ward, director of Early Childhood Education for the Oakland Unified School District, and Walter Costa, a San Jose Area architect and former mayor of Hayward.

"We have chosen a prominent Silicon Valley executive as our keynote speaker this year to articulate how all of us can, and must, work together to educate our youth and to transform the digital divide into a digital door of opportunity for every- one," Tanita continued.

Covad Communications Chairman and CEO, Robert E. Knowling, Jr. will de- liver the morning's address on the theme "Advancing the Dream through Educa- tion." Knowling is a nationally renowned leader in the corporate and civic com- munity. He serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Juvenile Dia- betes Foundation International and was previously named "Father of the Year" by the foundation. He has received the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drum Major Award in Business, and the Out- standing Service Award for the YMCA of the USA. He is among a group of busi- ness leaders advising President Clinton on equal access technology issues.

Rabbi Zari Weiss of the Jewish Fam- ily and Children's Services, Tova Green of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship and the Rev. Dr. Warren Lee of San Francisco Theological Seminary, are among the ec- clesiastical faith leaders scheduled to give reflections.

"The new century dawned in an envi- ronment teeming with scientific and tech- nological innovation as well as unparal- leled economic prosperity. Yet, the challenge of living, working and laugh- ing together as sisters and brothers of the same human race still beckons us" says Robert A. Wilkins, YMCA President and CEO, who is also an ordained American Baptist minister.

Revenues from the breakfast fund YMCA after school programs for under- privileged youth in the East Bay. Tickets are \$15 and may be purchased at the door.

For more information, call YMCA of the East Bay at 510-451-8039, ext. 777.

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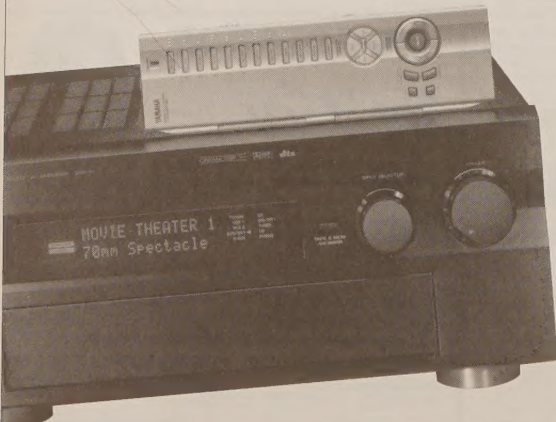


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299<sup>99</sup>SMARTFILE VCR INSTANTLY SHOWS YOU  
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Special circumstances, some items may be limited to stock on hand or limited to one per family at the discretion of the store. We reserve the right to limit quantities to ensure sufficient quantities for you, our customers.

**GOOD GUYS OFFER** is good on purchases made on approved credit on Good Guys Preferred Customer credit card from 1/1/2000. The Annual Percentage Rate ("APR") may vary month to month. As of 1/1/1999, the current APR is 22.65% (corresponding Monthly Rate of 1.89%). Minimum finance charge of \$5.00. No down payment and no monthly payments required on cash balance for six months. Any purchase not paid in full within the promotional period will be subject to finance charges assessed from the date of purchase.

**PROSCAN OFFER** applies to Mitsubishi video and audio purchases from 1/1 to 1/31/00 on the Three Diamond credit card. No credit approval. No interest will be charged if purchase price is paid in full within 12 months from purchase date. If not, charges on the average daily balance will be assessed from purchase date. Standard Rate APR is 22.25% for accounts that are not in good standing. Otherwise, the Default Rate of 26.85% APR will be applied to all balances. Minimum finance charge is \$5.00.

**SONIC OFFER:** Subject to credit approval, no finance charges will be assessed and no minimum monthly payment will be required on your promotional purchase amount if you pay the total minimum payment due on your account each month when

due, and you pay your promotional purchase amount in full by the payment due date set forth on your twelfth (12th) monthly billing statement after the transaction date. Minimum monthly payments are required during and after the promotional period on all balances that are not exempt from monthly payments. If the total minimum payment due on your account is not paid each month when due, or your promotional purchase amount is not paid in full by its due date, finance charges will be assessed on your promotional purchase amount from the transaction date (or at our option, from the date the transaction is posted to your account) and minimum monthly payments will be required on the balance of your promotional purchase amount. Variable APR = 22.98% as of 10/15/99. Fixed APR of 24.75% applies if payment is more than 30 days late. Minimum finance charge of \$1.00. A credit service of GE Capital Consumer Card Co., an Ohio banking corporation. Offer good on Panasonic TV purchases of \$999 or more from 1/1/2000 to 1/31/00.

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finance charges assessed from the date of purchase.

**SONY OFFER** subject to credit approval, no finance charges will be assessed and no minimum monthly payment will be required on your promotional purchase amount if you pay the total minimum payment due on your account each month when due, and you pay your promotional purchase amount in full by the date due in July 2000. Minimum monthly payments are required during and after the promotional period on all balances that are not exempt from monthly payments. If the total minimum payment due on your account is not paid each month when due, or your promotional purchase amount is not paid in full by its due date, finance charges will be assessed on your promotional purchase amount from the transaction date (or at our option, from the date the transaction is posted to your account) and minimum monthly payments will be required on the balance of your promotional purchase amount. Variable APR = 22.98% as of 9/16/99. Fixed APR of 24.75% applies if payment is more than 30 days late. Minimum finance charge of \$1.00. A credit service of GE Capital Consumer Card Co., an Ohio banking corporation. Offer good from 1/1 to 1/31/00 on purchases of \$499 or more of Sony consumer electronics products, Sony VHS VCRs, or Sony WebTV (Sony PlayStation, computer products, and pre-recorded software are not eligible).

## Satisfaction Guarantee

If you aren't satisfied with your purchase, you can return most products for an exchange or a full refund within 30 days. Cameras and camcorders can be returned within 14 days.

We return the product in new condition with the factory packaging, supplied accessories, and your receipt. Missing accessories are subject to replacement fees. To be fair to you and to our manufacturers, we can't take back opened software or video games.



# Opinion

## Y2K OK

**P**hew. We made it. Wrapped up one millennium and moved into the next one without a hitch, a glitch or a demagnetized credit card. It's good to have that behind us, that nanosecond that marked the transition between the 20th and the 21st century. It will probably be remembered as the most expensive and most talked about instant in history.

I like to think that I didn't buy into all the Y2K hysteria of massive power outages, no running water and ATM machines that wouldn't put out. But I kept having this recurring vision of the last scene in "Escape from L. A.," with the world going dark and coming to a halt at the stroke of midnight.

Although I didn't really believe that nuclear warheads would accidentally be launched at major U.S. cities, I was comforted by the fact that nuclear experts—theirs and ours—joined forces to monitor the turn of the century at Patterson Air Force Base in Colorado.

I worried about my children. This was the first New Year's Eve in years that we weren't together. Would they be safe? Would I be able to call them? What would traffic condition be like? Was it safe for them to even be out and about on New Year's Eve? I worried that so many people were expecting something to happen, that something would happen.

There was no escaping the Y2K craziness.

E-mail messages were filled with virus alerts, Web sites to download the latest protection and instructions to make my computer was Y2K compliant.

Headlines blared news about mudslides, deadly windstorms and terrorists sneaking into the country. It was unnerving.

Entering a new millennium is a big deal and no one knew what to expect. A couple of days before Christmas, I was talking about it to a clerk at the supermarket.

It was a sunny day, clear, warm, a balmy 70 degrees. It was a beautiful day. A perfect day.

"I hate this weather," she said. "It's not right. It should be raining and cold. This is unnatural."

I agreed. Unseasonable weather makes me feel a bit unsettled.

"My friends and me were talking about it," she said. "You know, the weather, the winds and the way the moon has been so big and



**RONNIE CAPLANE**

Under Construction

bright."

She and her friends discussed how it was fulfilling a Biblical prophecy, that—according to the Bible—one of the signs that the world was coming to an end was not being able to tell summer from winter and, what I had been enjoying up until that minute, was summer weather.

"But it's snowing in Chicago," I said. "They know it's winter there and in Argentina it is summer."

She thought about what I said. I thought about what she said. Then she started talking about a vacation she was planning.

"I'm going to Hawaii this summer," she said, and I was relieved that she was making future plans. "If I'm still alive. I'm going to pay for my ticket next month."

Under the circumstances it sounded like a good plan.

I went to my favorite boutique, splurged on a sweater I had been eyeing for awhile and wore it home.

On Dec. 31, only hours before the dawn of the new millennium, I found myself in the supermarket again. It was packed. Check out lines wove their way out the door.

I only needed milk, but when I saw the empty spaces on the shelves and heard clerks telling customers that they were out of ice, bananas and garlic, I started loading up my cart with bread, yogurt, carrots, candy bars, red licorice, soda and two very large bags of chips. If I was going to be stuck in the dark for a couple of days, I would eat my way through it. And if the worst happened—well then this was no time to count calories.

When I got home, I watched TV and listened to reports of the turn of century around the world. There were a lot of fireworks but no cities were blowing up or shutting down.

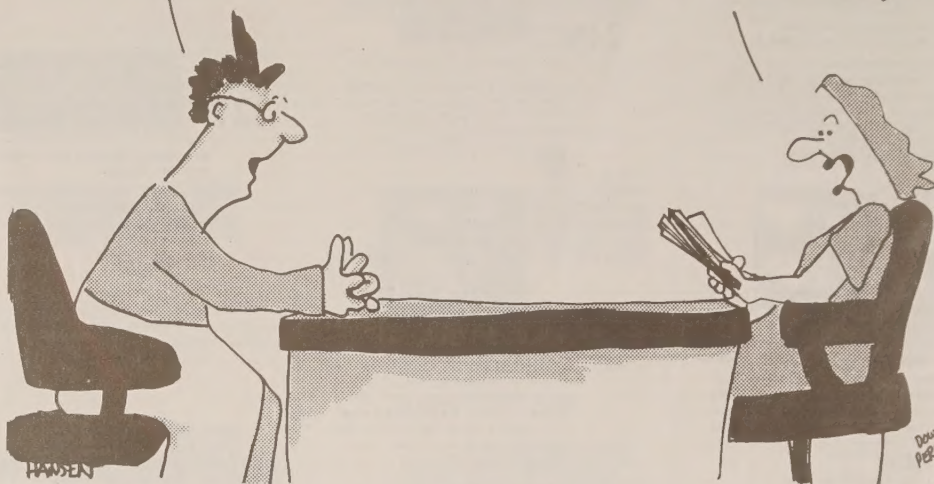
Everything went smoothly. By Jan. 2, people already were questioning whether there was anything to the Y2K panic. Was it the ultimate hoax or had all the preparation paid off?

And now that I know there is a morning after, I wish I hadn't eaten that bag of sour cream and onion chips.

## CONSUMER CREDIT COUNSELORS HELP THOSE WITH OVERWHELMING CREDIT DEBT.

SO, WHERE CAN I CUT BACK?

TELL ME AGAIN, WHY YOU CHARGED A SUBMARINE TO YOUR VISA CARD?



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Parcel tax distribution is unacceptable

Last June 8, the voters of Albany overwhelmingly passed Measure A, a parcel-tax initiative designed to put an additional million dollars per year into the Albany schools. It was the clear intention of this measure, as spelled out in its language, that this money was meant to buy back programs in our district which have been cut over the years, and to add in new programs which we felt our students needed and deserved. Because of its strong support of schools, the community decided, once again, to generously provide additional tax support to improve our schools by strengthening the program offered.

It has recently come to our attention that, for the 1999-2000 school year, more than three-quarters of this million dollars has been spent to pay for programs which were already in existence last year.

This is unacceptable. While we were aware that some of the funds would need to be used to maintain existing program, the highly disproportionate amount that went toward this leaves us feeling perplexed and angry. We feel that the citizens of Albany deserve an explanation and an accounting.

As a result, the Steering Committee has reconvened and will be working as a watchdog group to get the answers we and the community deserve. We will continue to work with the district and the community to assure that in the future district budgets are created in such a way that Measure A funds will be used for expansion of program as they were intended.

We will keep the Albany public informed as to our progress and any new developments.

Yes for Albany Schools  
Parcel Tax Steering Committee

### Demand fiscal responsibility from AUDS

When the latest parcel-tax measure was conceived two years ago, proponents had the best intentions. Their stated purpose was to augment Albany Unified School District programs in art, performing arts, music and foreign languages.

On the June ballot, it is evident that Albany citizens extended their good faith to the AUDS administration and Board of Education as we supported the parcel tax. Unfortunately, it appears that our confidence has been misplaced.

In the Journal article of Dec. 17, Assistant Superintendent Connie Hubbard compares the budgetary process to the directory system in a personal computer. Principal Gloria Gallindo adds that there was a great deal of miscommunication surrounding the parcel-tax measure. Let's be very clear: The manner in which AUDS handled the money generated by the parcel tax has nothing to do with computer directories, nor was there any ambiguity sur-

rounding the goals of the parcel tax. A well-managed school district should not rely on a parcel tax to support its regular programs.

As citizens of Albany we should demand fiscal responsibility from our school administrators and the AUDS Board of Education. Our students deserve nothing less.

Mitchell and Brigitte Carter  
Albany

### Unfortunate switch

We were disappointed in your article, "Fortune Sons and Daughters," which appeared in the Dec. 31 Journal. The third page of the article, which should have included Sundar Shadi, Catherine Webb and Louis Stein, was evidently switched with the article written for the Berkeley edition of your paper. We would appreciate seeing the entire article reprinted at a future date. The portion of the article which we did receive was very interesting and appreciated. Happy New Year!

Suzanne Brooks

The article was indeed there when the page was transmitted to the printer. The mistake happened in the press room. We are happy to reprint the missing portion in this issue.

### Questions about BART operations

BART's plans for service on New Year's Eve leave much to be desired.

When a massive crowd of passengers is expected, they should remove the seats in a few or all of the cars so that riders can be packed in standing up. After all what is the difference between standing around waiting in a station and standing up actually on the way home?

Being able to remove the BART seats quickly means having seat attachments which may be detached for just such an occasion.

As far as bicycles go, why hasn't BART ever put hooks on the ceilings of cars so that bicycles can be attached to take a minimum of space? The hooks might even be arranged so that the bicycles could hang between seats right where a bicycle owner could sit, or stand when the seats are removed.

How do transit systems elsewhere handle massive crowds and bicyclists? Do they have acceptable alternatives? If so, why hasn't BART planned to use them?

Does BART have to reinvent the wheel? Why are we paying BART employees such excessively high salaries?

Charles L. Smith

### Modern science corrupted

So, scientist Neil Gutterson, of Oakland, has determined that GE food labeling is not necessary because FDA scientists have deter-

mined that GE foods are perfectly safe (Letters, Dec. 10). This is the same group, mind you, that has also determined that spraying toxic chemicals on fruits and vegetables is a safe practice.

Gutterson bases his argument on science; assuming that adverse long-term effects of such radical technology could be scientifically-determined at all, especially in such a short time frame. If we care to look around us, people are dropping like flies from cancer, AIDS, etc. We simply cannot sacrifice our children's health for corporate greed, based on our very limited scientific view of the workings of the human organism.

Furthermore, GE food labeling means nothing when the wind blows. Genetic drift would ensure that all of our crops (including organically-grown ones) are GE in a short time. GE food labeling gives the green light to the biotech industry to continue to turn our natural world into a scientific playground in which we are all guinea pigs.

Gutterson's contention that this technology should continue to be slipped in our food supply, without our consent or knowledge is consistent with the scientific-mindset that has dominated our world in recent times.

Modern science has become corrupted to the max; I speak of GE foods, corporate patents of human body parts, human cloning, etc.

The unintended consequences are severe.  
Michael Baucé

### FDA hearings a sham

Neal Gutterson's letter to the editor makes it appear that the FDA is a monolithic agency when in fact there are serious disagreements between scientists working at the FDA and their supervisors, some of whom formerly worked for biotechnology corporations including Monsanto.

The FDA hearings that just concluded in three American cities were a sham. They were set up so that those who support the current FDA policy of not labeling genetically engineered food spoke first and those in favor of labeling were only given an hour and a half to speak, and that too after most of the media had left to file their stories.

At the plaza outside the Oakland Dec. 13 hearing, hundreds of people gathered to express their concern about the use of genetically engineered crops and the related issues such as allergic reactions and effects on the environment. A unifying message was that labeling these foods should be a basic requirement for marketing them.

In a democracy, people should be allowed to know what is in their food. When the FDA ignores and silences its own scientists, we can no longer trust that the FDA has our health and welfare in mind.

Marilyn Borchardt  
Institute for Food and Development Policy/Food First

## VIEWPOINT

### Let physicians make decisions

By Dr. Michael P. Ranahan

**T**he Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association (AC-CMA) agrees with much of the praise of United Health Plan's announcement that physicians, not its employees, can authorize health-care services for patients injured by the plan. It's reassuring to see broad support for allowing physicians to do what's medically best for their patients, and the realization that health-plan interference in medical decision-making is inappropriate. Unfortunately, in Northern California this announcement will have minimal effect on physicians' ability to provide proper care for their patients.

In what is considered the most mature care market in the country, for-profit managed-care health systems in California have created the best of all worlds for themselves.

They've delegated medical decision-making and the legal and financial risks for delivering health-care services onto medical groups; and they do so at capitation rates that are based on their market power, not on the sound fiscal basis of what is needed to ensure that all medically necessary services will be provided. The result is that medical groups—formed by physicians to make managed care more efficient and to promote quality of care—have the authority but inadequate funding to meet patient care needs, which puts those groups and individual physicians in jeopardy of financial collapse.

The California Medical Associa-

tion recently commissioned a study performed by Price Waterhouse Coopers which provides startling findings that prove this point: individual HMO rates in California are 40 percent lower than Northeast states with comparable costs of living; overall, California HMO premiums are \$120 per member per month, compared to a national average of \$127 per member per month, and every month California's health-care system receives \$83 million less per month than the average state; California capitation rates paid to physicians have fallen from a high of \$45 per month for each HMO member in 1990-93 to a low of \$29 per month in 1997-99, while the cost of living increased 25.2 percent; a 1998 CMA survey revealed that pediatricians receive an average of \$24.24 per month to care for children ages 0-21, while a Towers Perrin Study found that physicians' costs for treating this same age group averages \$47 per month, creating a loss on average of \$270.96 per child per year; the largest for-profit health plan takes nearly 25 percent off the top for administration and profits before funding any health care services. In contrast, the largest nonprofit HMO utilizes 5 percent for administrative costs; medical group representatives testified to the state legislature in March that over 90 percent of the medical groups in California are in financial trouble, and in July a

See PHYSICIANS, Page A7

GENERAL MANAGER • RUTH MARICICH

EDITOR • CHRIS TREADWAY

ALBANY • EL CERRITO • KENSINGTON

# THE JOURNAL

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Member, California Newspaper Publishers Association

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787



## ALBANY PTA NEWS

By Kay Weinstein

525-6782 or:

Belinda Lum at 528-2429. E-mail Linda at cho.prn.lo@cho.org or Belinda at belum@pacbell.net

■ **Attention: AHS Parents & Students:** Jan. 21 is the deadline to purchase Yearbook 2000. Call Jostens at 1-888-479-3336 or pick-up an order form in ROP Room 128.

■ Jan. 10, Site Council Meeting, 6 p.m., AHS Main Office  
 ■ Jan. 15, Winter Ball  
 ■ Jan. 18, Athletic Boosters Meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Room 40

**Albany Middle School**

■ **SCRIP Orders:** Safeway and Andronico's scrip must be purchased from eScrip (see above). We are selling Lucky/Albertsons and Natural Grocery scrip. Call Karen Moss at 526-2018 or Linda Okamoto at 525-6782. E-mail Linda at cho.prn.lo@cho.org.

■ Jan. 6, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., AMS Library

**Cornell Elementary School**

■ **SCRIP sales:** Safeway and Andronico's scrip may be purchased from eScrip (see above). Lucky/Albertsons, Natural Grocery and Berkeley Bowl SCRIP for sale Wednesday and Friday from 8:15-8:45 a.m., and Wednesday after school.

■ Jan. 12, PTA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

■ Jan. 26, Safety-Smart Kids, 6:30-8:30 p.m. A friendly, lively presentation of basic self-protection skills for elementary students by East Bay KID-POWER coordinator, Enka Holmes (a former AMS teacher).

**Marin Elementary School**

■ **SCRIP for sale Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings before school, at both early and late bird times, and Wednesday after school.** Orders can be placed in office at any time. Safeway and Andronico's scrip may be purchased from eScrip (see above).

■ **Reminder:** Please remember to save and turn in General Mills box-tops for education to office.

■ Jan. 13, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., Marin Multi-Purpose Room

**Ocean View Elementary**

SCRIP for sale Monday, Wednesday & Friday mornings before school on playground. Ask for Kim Denton. Safeway and Andronico's scrip may be purchased from eScrip (see above).

**AUSD Board of Education**

Jan. 11, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

**AUSD District Calendar**

Jan. 17, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, NO SCHOOL

## Proclaiming a California jubilee for children

There is a growing campaign to bring major debt relief for the world's poorest countries. Called Jubilee 2000, the movement seeks to unfetter developing countries from the tremendous burden of debt repayment as they work to build struggling economies and public services.

In Mozambique, for example, one of four children dies before age 5 due to infectious disease, yet the government spends four times more on debt servicing than on health care. In Sub-Saharan Africa, governments owe foreign creditors an average of almost \$400 for every man, woman and child — more than most Africans make in a year.

Jubilee 2000 is inspired in part by the Old Testament book of Leviticus which called for a 'Year of Jubilee' every fifty years in ancient Israel.

As described by Arthur Waskow, "Every seventh year, debtors were released from their debts and the land itself was released from human control, so that it could make its own Sabbath rest for an entire year. And in the 50th year (seven times seven plus one), a Jubilee was to be proclaimed." The words of Leviticus were encoded on the American Liberty Bell: "Proclaim liberty [jubilee] throughout the land to all the inhabitants thereof." The bell first rang in 1776 to announce a new era heralded by the Declaration of Independence.

Writer Jay Gary describes the impact of Jubilee, "In ancient times, the Year of Jubilee began a year long festival marked by canceling of outstanding debts, returning land to original owners, and freeing of indentured servants."

Today, millions of people are supporting the application of the spirit of the ancient Jubilee in small and large ways seeking the reconciliation of debts that prevent governments and societies from dealing with critical social issues.

In late 1999, President Clinton voiced support for this movement and said, "I do not think we can say in good conscience that we support the idea that (poor countries) should choose between making interest payments and investing in their children's education."

Currently, the WCCUSD is paying the state \$1.8 million per year working off a debt incurred under the state mandated terms resulting from a bailout of the district's financial problems in the early 1990s. Under current repayment terms the debt will be repaid in the year 2017.

The ironic but sad link between third world debt status and the West

Contra Costa Unified School District was first pointed out by West County attorney David Brown when he noted in an open letter to Gov. Gray Davis, "I am amazed that on the eve of the last year of the millennium, our leaders can propose such broad, sweeping debt relief abroad, and yet we here in the West Contra Costa Unified School District must suffer the choice — 'between making interest payments and investing in [our] children's future.'"

Brown is one of many West County citizens who have written to Davis over the last few months asking the state to allow our school district to utilize funds currently being used to repay debt for the education of our children.

In essence, the terms have created a form of indentured servitude for the students of our school district. A kindergarten entering our schools in September 2000 will pay the state over \$1,200 by the time he or she leaves high school in the form of less money spent on his/her education. This is more than the amount our district will spend on supplies to support that student's education.

But the real loss goes much deeper. To the extent we accept this form of second class citizenship, we internalize an attitude that says our children deserve less than students in other school districts in California. We face the continual reminder that our district's attempt to make a major leap forward in the late 1980s resulted in us taking a step backward instead. And the continuing question is: are we capable of making the necessary and deep changes that will take this school district from one with small areas of excellence and vast stretches of low performance to one that delivers to every child the ability to reach her/his full potential?

Today, we are internalizing the attitude foisted upon us by the state of California, the media, and, critically, ourselves, which says we are broken and can't be fixed.

In seeking a brighter future, let's first declare Jubilee among ourselves affirming that we can and we will deliver for West County's children. Let us first reconcile with each other, let us first refuse to accept each other's low performing attitudes, and, importantly, then let us break free of indebtedness from the state of California carrying the message of jubilee.

Let's call this the West County Jubilee for Children.

Let's demand that Gov. Davis make good on his promise to rebuild edu-

cation in this state. In Sacramento, the necessary attitudinal change must be from "how do we further regulate the educational system?" to "how do we work together with communities throughout the state to secure and provide the resources needed to build excellence in education?"

Let's ask Gov. Davis to take this spirit and proclaim a State of California Jubilee for Children.

The only natural and fair application of the Jubilee would be to reinvest West County's debt directly in education. We are not asking for forgiveness. One, because to ask for forgiveness implies that we have done wrong. In the long and complicated history of the Richmond Unified School District's journey into state indebtedness, one fact remains clear, the district was not allowed to proceed through a natural bankruptcy that would have enabled it to negotiate terms with its creditors.

In resolving debt issues between third world debtor nations and creditors, policy makers have instituted programs whereby the debtors invest debt funds directly in programs which reduce poverty or create some other common good like a reduction in environmental exploitation.

We can do the same here in West County. Superintendent Gloria Johnston is working with staff and community members to create a long-term strategic plan for the district; many schools are hard at work taking advantage of opportunities afforded by Gov. Davis' new legislation like the 'Immediate Intervention — Underperforming Schools' program. Whether funds reinvested from debt payments are spent on these efforts or on other critical needs like school repairs or supplies, the bottom line is that the school district must be held accountable for their wise use and the impact they create.

All five cities in West County, the WCCUSD School Board, the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, the Contra Costa Central Labor Council, United Teachers of Richmond NEA/CTA, Public Employees Union Local #1, and many community organizations have endorsed the West County Alliance for Public Education's "Call to Action" asking for reinvestment of the debt funds in education in West County.

Like many in West County, I have written letters to Gray Davis asking for a reinvestment of WCCUSD debt payments (see: <http://www.igc.org/west-county/0819992.htm>).

## West County School Watch

By Glen Price

On Dec. 17, 1999 I received a form letter response from Secretary of Education Gary Hart. He wrote, "...it is also critical that school districts be held accountable for sound fiscal management and that they, like responsible individuals, should be expected to fully repay their debts."

The point is well taken. (Let's put aside for the moment the obvious difference being that in this particular case the district was neither allowed to declare bankruptcy nor participate in the negotiation of loan terms.) Secretary Hart asks the key question: How could our system of government and our economic system function if either individuals or organizations like school districts could walk away from their debts?

I believe that the answer lies in adherence to a higher accountability. I believe the WCCUSD and the State of California are partners in a critical mission: education of the children and youth of this community. Secretary Hart and Governor Davis need to ask the question: Is continued debt repayment in the best interest of the children and youth of West County? If the answer to that question is "no," which I believe it will be, then we need to plan how we can truly benefit our children through the reinvestment of debt payments.

Declaration of a complete economic Jubilee was probably not an easy task in ancient Israel. Just like it won't be easy for the citizens of West County to free ourselves from the attitudes, behaviors, counterproductive practices, and indebtedness of spirit that prevent us from creating the educational system we all want. But I believe we can do it. I believe the power to create a West County Jubilee for Children resides within each of us individually and as communities.

And I believe Gray Davis could declare a State of California Jubilee for Children. It's time to reconcile and reinvest the debt this state owes its children and its future. The time to make it all happen is this millennial year 2000.

Want to receive West County School Watch and other action alerts on local school issues delivered to your email address? Send the message "Subscribe" to [pakglenn@aol.com](mailto:pakglenn@aol.com).

## PTA council

**ATTENTION: SCRIP BUYERS.** All PTA's have now converted to eScrip for Safeway and Andronico's. We will still sell paper scrip at Lucky's/Albertsons and Natural Grocery.

eScrip is an electronic Scrip program where a supporter (you!) registers or all of one's MasterCard, Discover, American Express, Debit or grocery loyalty (SafeClub) cards for a \$10 annual fee. Supporters then use their registered cards when paying for merchandise at participating merchants. The merchant then donates a percentage of the sale to your PTA. For \$10, you can support one school. If you have children in different schools and wish to support the profits between schools, it costs an additional \$5 per school year to cover accounting costs. So, yet, ask a relative or friend to support for the other school, and you have to split the profits!

**Register your cards with eScrip.** Call 1-800-400-7878 Monday through Friday between 8 AM and 8 PM for more information, check out the web site at [www.escripinc.com](http://www.escripinc.com) or Linda Okamoto at 525-6782.

Following are the Albany school districts for eScrip:

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Albany Middle School 136556344

Gregory High School 8791

Marin Elementary School 1780

Marin Elementary School 16069

Ocean View Elementary School 1432

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Store.com and Land's End. Up to

10 percent of every purchase goes

to your school.

Jan. 8, AHS Curriculum Meet-

ing with Assistant Superintendent

Anne Camp, 10 a.m. to noon,

Lutheran Church, 15 Santa Fe,

Albany.

Jan. 22, Elementary Curriculum

Meeting with Assistant Superin-

tendent Marianne Camp, 10 a.m. to noon,

on TBA.

**Albany High School**

SCRIP Orders: Safeway and An-

dro's scrip must be purchased

from eScrip (see above). We are sell-

ing Lucky/Albertsons and Natural

Grocery scrip. Call Linda Okamoto at

525-6782.

525-6782 or:

Belinda Lum at 528-2429. E-mail

Linda at cho.prn.lo@cho.org or Be-

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## Physicians

PAGE A6

A survey of California Bankruptcy courts revealed 113 medical group practices and/or closures over the three years out of 300 medical groups, and individual physicians are forced out of business, an example of which is an oncologist who bankrupt after being forced to pay for his patients' chemotherapy out of his own pocket. Another example is the fact that more than 100 physicians are owed an estimated \$100 million by Medpartners, a medical group that went bankrupt last year. Health Net's preference to the terms they secured with medical groups is cited by Health Net's decision to transfer 1200 East Bay physicians from treating primary care physicians who contract directly with Health Net over to new physicians contract with Health Net through a medical group.

To prevent the collapse of the health-care delivery system in California and ensure that patients receive appropriate care, the California Medical Association sponsored two bills in the current legislative session. AB 918 simply requires that the health plan payments made by health plans be actuarially sound, the other bill (AB 919) would require that reimbursement of pharmaceuticals be separately from capitation payments, because rising costs and de-

mand for drugs make it actuarially impossible to ensure that they are sufficiently covered in capitation payments.

Not surprisingly, those bills have met fierce opposition from the insurance industry, who claim passage of those bills would significantly increase insurance premiums.

Announcing that physicians may authorize medical services while failing to provide adequate resources to

deliver those services could be viewed as a clever way to further distance health plans from the consequences of an underfunded health care delivery system. Until health plans are held accountable for providing adequate funding for health services, United Health Care's announcement changes little in Northern California.

Michael P. Ranahan is president of the Alameda-Contra Costa Medical Association.

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# Time to look ahead to the next generation

OK, admit it: Weren't you just a wee bit disappointed when the world didn't come to an end at midnight last Friday? Mind you, I'm mostly relieved that it didn't happen, but wouldn't it have been cool if the doomsayers had turned out to be right?

Now, a week later, it's hard to find anyone who will admit he fell for the Y2K hype. But I was at the supermarket on Friday, and I saw a lot of folks loading up on bottled water.

In fact, what you chose to stock up says a lot about your priorities. Personally, I loaded up on cat food and kitty litter for Phoebe.

Oh well. The good news is that the earthquake is coming, and we can use all those emergency Y2K supplies then.

If I sound grumpy, it's because I loathe and despise New Year's Eve, no matter what the year. To me, it's the Las Vegas of holidays — all glitz and false hilarity, with no real human warmth underneath. And coming on the heels of my favorite holiday, Christmas, it feels even more anti-climactic.

I planned to observe the occasion the same way I do every year;



**MARTIN SNAPP**

Snapp Shots

namely, hitting the sack with Phoebe by 9 p.m. and sleeping through the whole thing.

But this year, just in case Y2K was for real, I didn't want to miss out on The End Of Civilization As We Know It. (Of course, The End Of Civilization As We Know It actually occurred three days earlier, when Mayor Moonbeam appointed a tattoo artist to the Oakland Arts Commission. This will undoubtedly come as good news to Jay Leno and David Letterman, who were running out of ebionics jokes to bash Oakland with.)

■ ■ ■

Anyway, since the millennium is really about the future, not the past, I decided to spend the evening with my nephew and niece, Marshall Platt and Elana Reinin — or, more specifically, with their three kids, Ariel, Anya and

Yael, all of whom are under 10.

Once again, out of the mouths of babes: They couldn't have cared less about the millennium. They saw it for the non-event that it was.

All that mattered to them was that they were being allowed to stay up until midnight for once.

But despite the fact that the millennium is a mere numbers game, it's still a good time for taking stock. And I'm stunned that while we're doing a lot of speculating about the future, we're paying practically no attention to the people who will have to live in it.

I'm talking about the kids, of course — the people around Ariel, Anya and Yael's age. Let's face it: You and I are basically creatures of the century past. Every day that goes by, we count less and less.

But these kids are the future. They, not we, will determine whether computers turn out to be our servants or our masters. Or whether genetic engineering turns us into Frankenstein's monsters.

They are the ones who will have to cope with the destruction of the rain forests, and the frightening growing gap between the haves

and the have-nots.

I have two friends named Bill Strauss and Neil Howe, who have written a series of fascinating books ("Generations," "13th Gen," and "Fourth Turning") that trace an amazing four-generational cycle that repeats itself in American history, over and over again.

Every four generations, they say, we get what they call a "heroic" generation. We're all familiar with the last one: the G.I.s and Rosie the Riveters. From Steven Spielberg to Tom Brokaw, we are heaping honors on "The Greatest Generation," even as they are slipping away from us. And we beat our breasts, wondering how we can ever live up to them.

Well, good news: Strauss and Howe say this current crop of little kids — what they call the millennials — show every sign of being another heroic generation, just like the G.I.s. If you're looking for Private Ryan, he's a toddler in nursery school.

That's the good news. The bad news is that we're going to need them. Strauss and Howe say big crises also tend to recur in cycles — about once every 80 years, or, as

Lincoln said, "four score and seven years." And we're due for another one around the year 2020. And these little kids will be the ones who will make or break it for us.

So what are we doing to get them ready? Just listen to the current dispute in Washington over what to do with the surplus: Clinton wants to use it to shore up Medicare, which will basically benefit baby boomers. The Republicans want to use it to cut taxes, which will basically benefit the generation Xers.

But who's speaking up for the millennials? Why aren't we using the money to beef up education, instead? Why do we still see kids selling raffle tickets to buy uniforms (or even worse, instruments) for their school band? If this isn't the time to undo the damage done by Proposition 13, when is? Are we going to stiff another whole generation, the way we did the generation Xers?

When I was their age, California had the best public school system in the country, routinely ranking first in both reading and math scores. Today, we're tied with Louisiana for next-to-last in math

scores, ahead of only Mississippi. And in reading scores, we're behind both Louisiana and Mississippi.

When I was young, even a free education all the way through college. The elite (free and I do mean free — tuition or fees) four years at the U.C. campuses, the other a free ride at one of the state colleges.

Is it too much to ask we can't be that way again?

Mind you, there are a lot of other issues affecting children — including child abuse, gun control and the vulgarization of our culture — the schools are a good place to start.

This generation, in FDR's words, has a rendezvous with destiny. Let's make sure they're ready for the appointment.

Phone Martin Snapp at 510-9039; write him c/o Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Road, Oakland, CA 94619; or e-mail him at catman@california.com.

## Fortunate

FROM PAGE A1

After the war, Woolworth served in the Albany school administration until his retirement in 1972. But he and Billie passed the education bug on to their three kids, all of whom went on to be teachers in their own right.

### Sundar Shadi

Is there anyone in El Cerrito who doesn't love Sundar Shadi? From 1949 until failing eyesight forced him to quit in 1996, he brightened El Cerritos' Christmas every year with the elaborate Nativity sound-and-light shows he erected on his sprawling hillside yard on the Arlington. Tourists by the charter busload used to come from as far away as Sacramento and San Jose — more than 70,000 per year, by conservative estimate.

Not to mention the displays he created at other times of the year, including his annual Halloween display and Thanksgiving exhibit, complete with a flock of plaster turkeys. For many people, Shadi is Christmas. But he's not a Christian. His Christmas displays were always non-sectarian, as befits a man who grew up knowing the evil of religious intolerance.

Shadi was born in 1900 near Sargodha, India, which is now a part of Pakistan. As a member of the minority Sikh community, he suffered prejudice from both Hindus and Moslems at an early age.

His father and his older brother were killed in sectarian violence.

He came to America in 1921, settling first in Stockton. Working in the fields picking asparagus, he saved up enough to move to Berkeley and enroll at Cal, where he graduated in 1930 with a master's degree in horticulture, specializing in pomology, the science of growing fruits.

Shadi wanted to teach, but in those days the prejudice against non-citizens was too strong, so he went to work pumping gas. One thing led to another, and he made a decent living in real estate.

He also fell in love, marrying Cal professor Dorothy Clarke, one of the nation's foremost experts in Spanish literature. It was she who first suggested the Christmas display.

Over the years, the annual display became a beloved El Cerrito institution. When Shadi retired in 1966, former mayor Jean Siri spoke for many when she said, "I feel a great vacancy. First it was my tradition, then my kids' tradition, and now my grandchildren's tradition."

So why did he knock himself out every year to make our Christmases a little brighter? "Everybody has a duty to do something for their fellow beings," he once explained. "See, I was enjoying my life, nice wife, nice house, nice children, so I felt I ought to do something for the community."

### Chatherine Webb and Louis Stein

The main reason we know as

much as we do about our local history is because of the tireless efforts of two dedicated amateur historians: Catherine Webb and Louis Stein.

Catherine Jones Webb was the lifelong chronicler of Albany history. First in the Albany Community News, then in The Times-Journal, then in three books, she lovingly collected oral histories from Albanians of all walks of life. (Her first book, "The Story of Albany," was a primary source for much of the information in this article.)

Oddly, she had trouble finding a publisher who would print it. "People aren't interested in that kind of stuff," one told her.

Fortunately, her loyal readers contributed enough money to the Albany Historical Society for it to publish what is now a classic.

As her colleague Phyllis Lyon put it, "She was an avid member of the Albany Arts Committee, the Friends of the Albany Library, a civil rights activist in Mississippi during the '60s, a political activist, and keeper of the Albany historical flame."

She died in 1997 at the age of 92, feisty and fascinating to the end.

Her counterpart in El Cerrito was Louis Stein. In Kensington, he was

known as the kindly, slightly off-the-wall owner of the Arlington Pharmacy, whose soda fountain was the social hub of this close-knit village. He was always at the center of community activities, once dressing up in long underwear, a pink tutu and a bowler hat to perform at a fundraiser at Kensington School.

He was a success at business, but money was always the last thing on his mind. "He could sell anything to anyone," his son Robert said, "because he loved people."

It was this love of people that led him to listen to their life stories. That led to his interest in local and Northern California history. By the late '40s, he began collecting artifacts, documents, letters, whatever he could get his hands on, with a fervor.

"He would go to visit somebody's widow and come away with her collection of papers or photos," Robert recalled. "Sometimes he bought collections, but usually they just gave

them to him."

His other big obsession was railroad history. For many years he kept an electric street car in his yard, along with a horse-drawn street car for which he built a small barn.

The horse-drawn car was a fixture in local parades for years, as well as the celebration of the opening of BART.

The electric street car was eventually donated to the Western Railroad Museum in Rio Vista, and the horse-drawn car was donated to the Ardenwood Historic Park in Fremont.

In 1984 Stein donated 80 boxes of photos, manuscripts, documents, maps, newspapers and ephemera — more than 50,000 items in all — to

the El Cerrito Historical Society for generations to come, by delving into this treasure and unearthing invaluable information about our local past.

"Without the Stein Collection," History Center would not exist, he once said. "Perhaps it would not all. People like Louis Stein along only one in a century."

Many thanks to Verne Odlin, El Cerrito Historical Society, Hildebrand and Helen Anderson, the El Cerrito Library, Ronni of the Albany Library, and independent journalist Phyllis Lyon for help in preparing this article.

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## Studio

FROM PAGE A1

community. Altogether, such efforts added over \$14,000, providing the studio with a cacophony of super-equipment.

## Tech for a song

Some of the studio equipment donated by manufacturers," Lienthal said, "and several key elements of the studio were discounted by the manufacturers and retail outlets." Company executives told the instructor they made concessions and offered discounts because they are extremely enthusiastic about the project.

## Debt

FROM PAGE A2

and go over their living expenses, creditors and the total amount of debt owed. Then, working together, they create a workable budget. At that point, the client decides whether or not they want to participate in the program.

In order to do so, the client needs to cover basic living expenses in addition to having money left over for creditors. They also agree to pay additional debt and are encouraged to cut up their existing debts to avoid temptation.

"We are not going to push a person into the debt management program," said Dean. "We start first by listening to them how to work with their creditors on their own, if it looks like they can do it."

However, if this proves too much, they can enter the program. Then a representative from the service contacts their creditors and tries to work out new payment contracts.

Because of our reputation, the creditors will oftentimes lower or waive the interest charges," she said. "A person gets out of debt."

He can still pay back what he

Equipment already purchased for the studio includes a 32-channel mixing board, a Seagate Cheetah nine gigabyte hard drive, two Machie HR 824 powered monitors, a pair of Alessis XT20 ADATs, a Mac 450 G3 computer, and a number of groove tubes, microphones, stands, and headphones.

"A lot of students have expressed intense interest in this program," Lienthal said. "Once we get things going, students who study for two or more years will find themselves in great demand by the music industry."

In addition to his efforts to develop a digital recording studio and his desire to train students how to operate it, Lienthal also teaches two orchestras, a jazz band, and an intro to rock class at AHS. But that just

tells part of the story.

## A high note

"Tom Lienthal is a fantastic asset at Albany High," vice principal Booker declared. "I'm a huge supporter. He motivates students with classical music and jazz, sponsors the music performance club, and puts together an R&B band, both during his free time," Booker added.

Booker said Lienthal is "a fantastic teacher and a professional musician as well. He brings in other pros to share their skills and experiences with his kids. Tom can make music and the music industry tangible for his students. And that's important. The digital recording studio is just another example of how he goes above and beyond the call of duty."

With the approval of the Board of Education, Lienthal hopes to make the studio available to all bands and choirs in the district, as well as garage groups and professionals, which will provide the basis to make the project self-funded.

"I don't want this to be a 1999 studio in the year 2020," Lienthal said, adding that "self-sustaining efforts" should assure that technology in the studio will remain on the cutting edge of the music industry for years to come.

For a relatively low fee, groups

will have the chance to lease the studio and record their own music. Once a CD is burned, it is a simple process to have it copied, providing individuals and groups an opportunity to sell top-of-the-line recordings as a fund raiser, or as they choose.

The AHS digital recording studio would charge students and individuals a fee, one that would be plowed back into the program to keep all technology up to date.

"Music students who need to audition for admission to university programs will be able to submit a professional CD,"

Lienthal said. "There are just countless ways this studio will benefit the people of Albany."

An additional \$15,000 is needed to complete the high-tech recording studio.

Students and other supporters hope the community will join the growing chorus and help raise funds needed to make the studio a reality and put Albany on the digital music map.

For more information, call the AHS Instrumental Music Boosters at 524-0945.

## Parking

FROM PAGE A1

"They park and run," Miles said of the all-day parkers, many of whom may use BART or ride in casual car-pools operations that pick up riders on Potrero Avenue and Eastshore Boulevard. "I'm tired of not having a place to park," she said. Miles also said some drivers not from the area speed through the neighborhood and increase congestion. "They don't respect our neighborhood."

Community Development Manager Gerald Raycraft said the proposed plan is in response to the residents' complaints and requests for action.

"We had been contacted by the property owners, residents, about a year ago," Raycraft said this week. He said the "casual car-pool crowd" seems to be the group of parkers most affecting the neighborhood. "We conducted a survey at that time and the results were very mixed in terms of what people wanted," Raycraft said. Some people wanted limited parking; others wanted no parking; some suggested nothing be done. Because of the inconclusive survey results, Raycraft said nothing

was done at that time.

About two months ago, however, city staff received more complaints and the issue moved to the front burner.

A neighborhood meeting between city officials and area residents held last November resulted in the new four-hour parking plan. "We explained there is a downside — and that is that their guests and visitors would be subject to a ticket if they're parked longer than four hours," Raycraft said.

Will Sellers, 64, who has lived in the neighborhood since 1966, said he agrees with the four-hour limit. "Usually you can't find parking," he said pointing to the street in front of his house. "We didn't come up with the plan, but we thought it was a

good solution when it was introduced to us," Sellers added.

Not all residents agree with the proposed changes. One Cypress Avenue resident who didn't want to give her name said she did not see the need for new limits. "I don't think it's a good idea," she said.

The four-hour non-resident limitations would be enforced on both sides of the streets, but would not apply on weekends and holidays. Neighborhood residents would be able to purchase a permanent vehicle permit for \$5 allowing them to park on the street longer than the four-hour limit.

City staff have written area residents outlining the proposed changes and asking for comments.

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## Contract

FROM PAGE A1

The area in dispute is situated close to where San Gabriel Avenue once crossed the former Hill Lumber property, later a city corporation yard.

It is nowhere near the middle school gym where an air quality test initially indicated the presence of a toxic fumigant. A series of follow-up tests have since given the gym a clean bill of health.

## Key Route

FROM PAGE A1

will be striped to differentiate the lanes. Warning signs will be placed a block away noting that the one side is a two-way street and a stop sign will be added on Key Route at Brighton. Residents there will be provided "preferential parking" in front of their homes.

The western Key Route closure and eastern two-way street conversion was adopted to avoid converting a large section of Memorial Field into a storage and staging area for the massive building project. Councilman Allan Maris, speaking for the council, argued that storing construction equipment, company offices and building materials on the grounds would deny students use of the athletic fields and cause "extensive damage" to the grassy playground.

Both the Albany Traffic and Safety Commission and the Board of Education recommended the action adopted by the council by a unanimous vote. But there were concerns expressed Monday.

"We have trouble backing out of our driveway as it is," due to speeding traffic, said Bernice Johnson, a resident on the 600 block of Key Route Boulevard. Johnson said buses have come roaring down the street for years, as have automobiles, though currently the western segment of the roadway is one way and separated from the northbound lane by a grassy median.

The question raised by Johnson and other neighbors of how garbage will be picked up was not answered.

Parking concerns for the area were addressed by Matthew Ridway, an associate from Fehr & Peers Associates, contracted by the Board of Education to study the problems created by the construction project and to propose solutions. Ridway said studies show there are "plenty of parking spots" in the vicinity of Albany High School, a view the council accepted.

Other provisions of the plan will provide a passenger loading zone on Portland Avenue extending from the north-eastern corner of Key Route and Portland Avenue to the area directly in front of the swimming pool. All such changes are temporary and can be reconsidered, according to provisions of the agreement.

A controversial proposal to install speed bumps along the block-long section of Key Route while it hosts two-way traffic was eventually adopted by the council, though the issue slowed debate.

Police Chief Larry Murdo suggested that speed bumps, which he and other council members referred to as "temporary roadway undulation," would help slow traffic along the short span and prevent any head-on accidents that might occur due to confusion created by the traffic pattern change.

"I may not have slide rules, the formulas and the data to predict what might happen on the western side of Key Route once it is open to two-way traffic," Murdo said, "but I do have expertise in the unpredictability of people's behavior." Murdo said it was better to take "prudent precautions" rather than risk a head-on accident along the short corridor.

Councilman Robert Good repeatedly objected to the use of the term "surface undulation devices." "Let's call them what they are—speed bumps," he said. "Speed bumps are just an awful thing, a la Berkeley. Once they are laid down, they may take root," a possibility he adamantly opposes.

Councilwoman Peggy Thomsen moved to provide temporary "preferential parking" to residents living on the 600 block of Key Route Boulevard. Depending on what city codes dictate, that could take the form of permit stickers.

The council took up the speed bump and preferential parking motion as a separate issue, and voted 3-2 to make it so. Thomsen, Councilman Ed McManus and Mayor Jon Ely voted to enact the measure, while Good and Maris voted no.

### Teen Center design

In other news, the council voted to approve the design of the Bill Lewis Teen Center on condition that the Board of Education approve a joint-use agreement for the property owned by the AUSD.

If approved, the teen center will be constructed between the bleachers and BART track on the northwestern corner of Cougar Field.

The indoor capacity of the teen center will increase from 1,400 square feet at its current location near Ocean View School, to 2,266 square feet, according to Bill Jones, the project coordinator. Though the council approved the plan, the proposed 10-year agreement regarding the structure and its use will require a review by commissions and jurisdictions outside of the City of Albany.

According to a report prepared by Jones, since Cougar Field is in El Cerrito, "design review and conditional use permit approvals must be secured from El Cerrito."

Jones said it is also possible that the Office of the State Architect must approve the "structural integrity" of the portable buildings as well.

The dispute between the two Albany jurisdictions is based in part on whether the city knew the dirt at the former Hill Lumber site was contaminated.

"The facts indicate that employees and officials of the city actually knew, or would be deemed to have known, of the existence of the two areas of contamination," Riggs claimed in his letter to the city. "Given the city's knowledge of the use of the area" (where equipment maintenance was apparently performed) the district claims city officials "would be deemed to know" the soil was contaminated there.

Zweben referred to reports prepared by a firm contracted to do an environmental assessment of the property prior to its sale. "It's difficult to understand on what basis the district could make an assertion that the city is somehow at fault, or knew something other than information contained in reports."

"We didn't even know there was an issue of contention until late last Octo-

ber," Zweben asserted. "The district never said a word, though they apparently knew there was a problem as early as March of 1998. What else should be expected of the city once hired consultants and a lab determined no other remediation was necessary? If they didn't believe the tests were accurate, they could have done their own tests. We never guaranteed that the land was free of contamination."

Hubbard said that in addition to the toxic cleanup, "we found an underground hydraulic lift reservoir after we were doing site clearing" at the location where the city corporation yard stood. "We also had that removed."

Zweben again questioned why the district did not make the city aware of any problems related to the condition of the soil and property prior to paying for remediation. "The first time it was brought up was at a 'two-on-two' meeting between the council and the district last October," Zweben said.

## Middle school gym back in use

By Kate Darby Rauch

ALBANY — The Albany Middle School gym reopened Monday following a two-month closure due to an elevated level of a toxic chemical found in the air.

Follow-up air tests have shown no noticeable level of the pesticide methyl bromide, prompting the district to allow children to use the building.

"All chemical compounds sampled in the air pollution tests have been within safe and normal limits," said Superintendent Gary Mills in a letter mailed to middle school parents this week.

Results from the second test of the gym's flooring, which also initially tested positive for the pesticide, are not yet available. But Mills and other school officials said they believe clean-air tests indicate

the gym is safe for children.

Several air tests were conducted in November and December.

"We're going to continue to monitor (gym air) on a monthly basis for a while," said Bill Cain, a district trustee.

Follow-up test results on the gym flooring were expected over the winter break. Officials said they anticipate them any day and don't know the reason for the delay.

Environmental experts, including the consultant hired by the district to do the testing, have indicated that if the additional tests show methyl bromide in the gym's wood flooring but not in the air, the gym poses no immediate risk to students, Mills said.

If the chemical is detected in the floor, the district will re-evaluate how best to proceed, Cain said.

The 700-student campus closed the fall. Consistent comments about strong chemical odors in the gym, a few students reporting dizzy spells and headaches, led the district to close tests in October.

One test found an elevated level of methyl bromide, typically used as a cultural pesticide and fumigant for mites or other wood bugs. The level was below the standards set by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration for workplace exposure, slightly higher than the American Conference of Government Hygienists' recommended level for children.

A test of the gym flooring found a slightly elevated amount of methyl bromide in the wood.

It is most commonly used as a fumigant or gas and dissipates with time.

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# Real Estate & Home

The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

January 7, 2000

Section B

**Weekly Sales** How are homes selling one week into the new year? [B6]

**Open Homes** Get a jump on the competition with our handy listings [B8]

## Luxury lifestyle show puts dreams into action

Architects gather to build residences you usually only see in slumberland

By Alan J. Heavens  
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

THE BUS CAUTIOUSLY makes its way in the dark along what can best be described as country roads outside Orlando, Fla., occasionally meeting an oncoming car or two at the rare crossroads. The driver, an affable, retired Walt Disney World engineer who declines to add a last name to "Shandy" — the one on his official lapel pin — begins to point. "See that house?" he says, directing everyone's attention to a darkened, palatial residence set just a bit back from the edge of the road. "That's Shaq's house."

He is referring to Shaquille O'Neal, the former Orlando Magic center who now does the same job for the Los Angeles Lakers. O'Neal isn't home — in fact, he doesn't spend much time around here at all these days.

large mansions along that road are home to many basketball players and other sports figures — especially golfers, who can practice on the professionally designed courses in everything but a hurricane, and can fly from Orlando International Airport to warm-weather tournaments in the winter and never fear having a flight canceled because of ice and snow.

Although most of central Florida's growing number of residents aren't sports stars, many appear to be almost as affluent, and favor houses and communities that cater to very high-end tastes.

That's where the Street of Dreams — billed as a "luxury-lifestyle home show" — comes in. In master-planned developments that dominate the residential-construction market in the South and Southwest, as well as in such unlikely places as Montreal, Minneapolis and Vancouver, groups of custom builders, and a few



VINCE AND JEAN OPALKA visit the Street of Dreams event showcasing specialty homes

See DREAM, Page B2

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# Dream

FROM PAGE B1

production builders as well, are getting a chance to create masterpieces that can be yours for a song — if that song has just earned you a gold record and several million dollars in royalties, of course.

The builders get a chance to produce their finest work, and garner great publicity, courtesy of Street of Dreams Inc., which produces the tour. Consumers get to see the houses and get ideas for their own homes, and it all benefits a local charity.

The Orlando Street of Dreams, the third one held in the area by the Woodinville, Wash., company that runs them, was in a master-plan development called Keene's Pointe, south of Windermere and northwest of Walt Disney World, a few miles from the O'Neal house.

Keene's Pointe, which hugs Lake Tibet-Butler and Lake Burden in the Butler chain of lakes, is 850 acres being developed as 14 villages, each with traditional architectural styles representing houses from New England to South Carolina.

There is a 250-acre Jack Nicklaus signature course designed by the golfer himself, and the luxurious 24,000-square-foot Golden Bear Clubhouse that overlooks the course and the water.

The 10 houses on the tour for the event, which began Oct. 24, ranged in price from \$895,000 to \$2.3 million. The \$9 tour fee benefited a school nursing program.

By 7:30 p.m. Nov. 13, several hundred serious buyers and just plain

dreamers had toured the houses, which also were billed as "Homes for the Millennium."

The overwhelming number of visitors that day was the reason builder Robert Alan Garrett was hoarse.

"Sorry," he whispered as he motioned a group of visitors around the first floor of Mar-a-Lago, his 7,118-square-foot Mediterranean-style house with the \$2.3 million price tag.

More than enough. The three-story house — rare for Florida, which usually builds closer to the ground — has five bedrooms, five baths, an elevator, a compact disc system for 5,000 CDs, an exercise room, a boat dock that winds through cypress trees to the lake, a private sun-bathing area off the master suite, and two- and one-car garages, plus a carport.

If that's not enough, there's also a sports court, martini bar and piano lounge, three staircases and a wine cellar.

The exercise room has mirrored walls, two television monitors and speakers. It leads to a private courtyard with a waterfall. The highlights, though, were the home theater and the playground.

The theater is connected to the house by a breezeway, designed, Garrett rasped, "so that you can watch the movies without disturbing the rest of the house." Being featured was "The Matrix," which is noted for its computer-generated special effects.

The playground is something along the lines of the Apollo lunar module mockup featured two years ago in Builder magazine's "Home of the Future" outside Dallas.

In Mar-a-Lago, the playground features a two-story clubhouse with a firefighter's ladder and, Garrett said,

an area designed "just for storytelling."

The elegance of Mar-a-Lago is reflected in La Casona Bella Vista, another Mediterranean-style house built by Stonebridge Homes of Windermere, with a sale price of \$1.7 million.

Builder Valerie Tucker greeted visitors. "My first house," she said excitedly.

## Plenty of elbow room

At 7,047 square feet, the house combines open floor plans with casual living, including a room designed for consuming after-dinner drinks and desserts.

The nine-foot rounded front door leads to a two-story foyer with a bridge. The workout room has massage tables, and is next to a breakfast nook and juice bar.

The house, which is on a lake-front lot, has six bedrooms, five full baths, and a half-bath. There are two double garages, an outdoor kitchen, a pool with a fountain and spa, and a mudroom. There is a two-sided fireplace between the family room and the billiard room — "it's called the 'Olde World cantina room,'" Tucker said, and it has a bar.

The house has a lot of tile — Mexican terra-cotta pavers, limestone and hand-painted tiles. The downstairs guest suite has a Moorish influence, with a slipper-shaped bathtub in a secluded alcove.

The master suite has an old-fashioned sleigh bed, which, according to the designer Rob Hanson of Design Specification, was purchased new at a store in downtown Orlando.

The two-story dining room, which accommodates 12, has a frescoed buffet and antique "retro-fitted" candleabra.

The children's room in this house — actually the "children's suite" — has two bedrooms, an attached gazebo-style playroom, and its own laundry.

## One of a kind

Even the house put up by the production builder — Morrison Homes of Maitland, Fla. — is one of a kind.

The bonus room has a wet bar, full bath, home theater seating on one side, and a game room with baseball seats and a baseball diamond on the other. A baseball-bat railing separates the two sides.

The price for this four-bedroom, four-bath, 4,100-square-foot house with two-story family room, pool with cabana bath, summer kitchen, three-car garage and den is \$859,000.

A concern for quality materials is reflected by each builder. Probably because the hot and humid climate takes a toll on a lot of materials used successfully in other parts of the country, Garrett uses thicker plywood roof sheathing and thick drywall on ceilings to prevent sagging.

There are PestBan treated-lumber interior frame walls to deter termites and other wood-eating insects, and construction is concrete block.

While the goal of the Street of Dreams is to sell houses and builders, there is an educational component that many visitors take advantage of, according to spokeswoman Alicia Murphy.

There are seminars on accessories, kitchen design, window coverings, and a variety of other topics. All are included in the price of admission.

By the way, Mar-a-Lago has been sold.

To a professional basketball player.

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## By Appointment



## 340 El Cerrito Avenue, Piedmont

Built in 1926 in central Piedmont, this light-filled home has three bedrooms, large formal rooms and fine architectural details.

Offered at \$649,000

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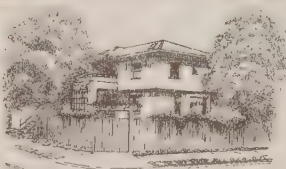
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854-37th ST.—COULD BE TWO UNITS. Currently single family home with 4 bedrooms, 1 bath. Moon Tam, 747-1620

801 NORTHVALE RD.—TRESTLE GLEN/SUNNY HILLS AREA. New kitchen & bath, refinished hardwood floors. 3+ bedrooms, 2.5 baths, extra rooms in basement, double car garage, redwood deck. Security system. Kitty Wan 748-1128

1220 DERBY—NEAR FRUITVALE BART STATION. Corner of E. 12th & Derby, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, includes 2 additional lots —\$250,000. Eddie Fagrey, 301-1010 page 291-9401.

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# Buyers: Know how, when to present offer

After months of previewing dozens of listings that weren't quite right, you finally find one like. Overwhelmed with excitement, you and your agent draft an offer and you instruct your agent to present it right away. Several hours later, your agent calls to tell you that the seller won't be listening to offers until the next week. Your excitement turns into frustration.

It's not unusual in active real estate markets for sellers to expose multiple listings to the market for a time before entertaining offers. By doing so, sellers hope several buyers will show interest in the property. When there are multiple offers, the sale price can be bid up, often over the asking price.

When you find a home that suits your needs, it's probably worth the wait to see if you and the sellers can work out a mutually acceptable purchase agreement. But, keep in mind that your offer is presented to and accepted by the seller, you are not to withdraw it.

If you see another property you like better, and those sellers are ready to hear offers immediately, you can withdraw your first offer and issue the second property.

It's usually in the buyers' best interest to keep the contents of their offer confidential until it's presented. It keeps competing buyers from getting the information to better their offers.

Make sure that the expiration date on your offer doesn't occur before the presentation date.

Sellers occasionally will entertain offers earlier than the scheduled date, so be sure that the seller's agent knows that you have written an offer.

Recently homeowners in Piedmont listed their home for sale. Their agent was to hear offers after the public open house. Several buyers expressed serious interest in the property days before the open house.

The sellers changed their minds and decided to listen to offers early. The sellers accepted one of three offers at the open house was canceled.

Before writing an offer, find out when the sellers plan to listen to offers and how many offers are anticipated. When there are multiple offers, find out if any of the competing offers are written by the listing agent.

Also, find out what provisions are made to present those buyers' offers.

The listing agent will be privy to price and other details of all of offers. Ideally, to be fair to all parties, the listing agent should only

## Real Estate Forum



By  
**Dian Hymer**

"It's in the buyers' best interest to keep the contents of their offer confidential until it's presented."

"An in-person presentation gives the sellers and their agent the opportunity to ask any questions they have about the buyers and their offer."

represent the seller when there are multiple offers.

Offers should be presented by the buyers' agent in person to the sellers and their listing agent. It's usually best to have offers presented in a professional environment like the listing agent's office.

An in-person presentation gives the sellers and their agent the opportunity to ask any questions they have about the buyers and their offer.

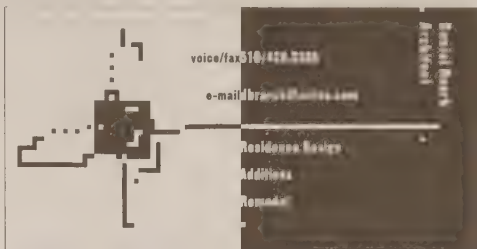
Some sellers, however, don't want to meet face-to-face with buyers' agents. And some sellers will be out of town or otherwise unable to lis-

ten to offers. In these cases, the buyers' agent should prepare a cover letter to accompany the offer that includes a summary of the positive features of the offer, including the buyer's financial capabilities.

Make sure that your agent doesn't plan to simply drop off your offer at the listing office, or even worse, fax it to the listing agent. If the buyers' agent can't present the offer to the seller in-person, he or she should

at least present it in-person to the listing agent.

Dian Hymer is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office and author of "Starting Out, The Complete Home Buyer's Guide." Available in book stores or from Chronicle Books: (800) 722-6657.



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**3725 Canon Avenue, Fruitvale**

Unbelievable price for this 2BR/1BA home with fenced level backyard. Set up on a knoll, affording privacy, with hardwood floors & built-ins.

Offered at \$189,000 - On the market January 10.

Judy Rankankan

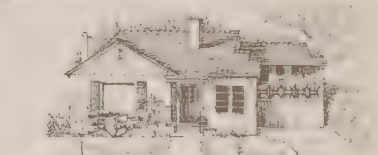
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**NEW LISTING - 625 MADISON ST. #208 Two**  
SOLD m, 2 bath.  
\$155,000. Near Oakland Chinatown.



## Demand for ARM loans up as mortgage rates climb

McLean, VA – According to Freddie Mac's 16th Annual ARM Survey much of the increase in ARM share in 1999 can be attributed to the rising expense of fixed-rate loans, an increase in low introductory pricing on ARMs, and the wide availability of an array of ARM products across lenders.

ARM lending represents about a third of all new single-family loans, according to industry sources.

"In 1998, ARMs constituted only 8 percent of the conventional home-

purchase lending market," said Frank Nothaft, deputy chief economist for Freddie Mac. "Since then, fixed-rate mortgages have risen about a percentage point while first-year rates on ARMs have risen less, largely due to an increase in the initial-period discount on ARMs of about a quarter percent, according to Freddie Mac's survey.

As a consequence, the ARM share in the conventional market has rebounded to 30 percent, the highest share in three years.

ARMs tend to carry lower interest rates than fixed-rate mortgages because the mortgage rate is calculated based on short-term interest rates, which are often lower than long-term rates.

The difference in interest rate and payment outlay between a fixed-rate mortgage and an ARM can be considerable in the first year.

For instance, in November 1999 this difference amounted to about

See SURVEY, Page B5

## The GRUBB Co.

### Featured Home of the Week

340 El Cerrito Ave. Piedmont \$649,000  
By Appointment. Built in 1926, this light filled home is located in central Piedmont. Features include a fireplace in the elegant living room, dining room, 3BR/1.5 BA, spacious breakfast room that opens to patio & garden, gleaming hardwood floors and architectural detailing throughout. Michelle Winchester

Oakland - Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m.

35 Binnacle Hill New Listing \$489,000  
Lovely Hiller Highlands townhouse with smashing Bay view. 2BR/2BA plus loft. Private terrace off kitchen. Great location. Spacious garage w/ample storage. Elizabeth Dickson

6012 Colton Blvd. New Listing \$485,000  
Dramatic Montclair contemporary w/filtered views! Close-in location. One owner. 3BR/3BA, family room & study. Decks & 2 car garage. Great condition. Erika Celestre

1405 Brewster Drive, El Cerrito \$499,000  
El Cerrito hills view home. 3BR/2BA. New interior paint, new carpet. Large, nearly 12,000 sq. ft. lot. Melitta Beeson  
6849 Broadway Terrace New Listing \$495,000  
Close-in 4BR Montclair traditional. Spacious & well maintained. 4th BR possible home office. Wonderful garden with hottub. A. Ashley O'Neill

16 Kimberly Court New Listing \$469,000  
Quality home set on a quiet cul-de-sac in Piedmont Pines. Stunning kitchen & updated throughout. 3BR/2BA + rumpus. Bonus room down. Judy Rankankan  
Coming Soon Priced to Sell \$189,000  
Unbelievable price for this 2BR/1BA home with fenced level backyard. Set up on a knoll, affording privacy, with hardwood floors & built-ins. Judy Rankankan  
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4275 Terrabella Way Bay View Lot \$225,000  
Gently sloping, 5800 sq. ft. lot w/approved plans. John Karmay  
3655 Virden Avenue \$110,000  
Nice down slope lot w/partial bay views. Debbi DiMaggio



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720 EUCLID AVE. This splendid vacant lot provides a large level building pad, easy access and Bay Views! A great location for swift transportation. Bebe McRae, ext. 145. .... \$265,000

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6042 MANCHESTER DR. Fabulous new 4BD/3BA French Normandy "castle" on double lot w/Bay views & gardens. Dee & Joe Knowland

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Fabulous Mediterranean custom-built in 1994. Private walled grounds courtyard entry, 4BD/ 3.5BA. Dick Cohen



BERKELEY.....\$695,000  
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OAKMORE  
All level living on quiet cul de sac. Beautifully updated, 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, family room, huge patio & pool. Robyn Mohr

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## Survey

PAGE B4

percentage points for a conforming 1-year ARM, according to Freddie Mac's 16th Annual ARM Survey. Such a savings amounts to \$80 over the initial year, for a \$200,000 conforming mortgage loan. Alternatively, homebuyers can save

\$1,618 over the first three years with a 3/1 ARM and \$1,846 over the first five years with a 5/1 ARM.

Compared to last year, slightly more lenders offered the 5/1 ARM option. Moreover, over the last few years, homebuyers have become more financially sophisticated allowing lenders to add more options to their ARM menus, namely through longer initial-rate periods.

According to the latest data collected by the Federal Housing Finance

Board, the 5/1 ARM has become the second most popular ARM financing option as its initial interest rate discount keeps the monthly payments below fixed-rate mortgage loans.

Freddie Mac is a stockholder-owned corporation chartered by Congress in 1970 to create a continuous flow of funds to mortgage lenders in

support of homeownership and rental housing. Freddie Mac purchases mortgages from lenders and packages them into securities that are sold to investors. Over the years, Freddie Mac has opened the doors for one in six homebuyers and two million renters across America.

— Freddie Mac

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**\$165,000 1408 E. 15th St.** Two units, large 2 bedroom owners unit with high ceilings, and finished attic with 2-plus rooms. Bev & George Williams 522-7173

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## Oakland

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**\$89,000 1864th 39th AVE.** Great single level home of Foothill Blvd. Two bedrooms, bath, utility room and off street parking. John Fredrich 814-4704

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## New Real Estate Program can reduce fees and commissions by 50%

BAY AREA - www.Homes-Link.com a real estate company based in Alameda CA has developed a revolutionary concept in real estate sales called Open Listings which is guaranteed to save home sellers 50% while meeting all California Department of Real Estate rules and standards. The concept is so revolutionary that it has the larger franchise based companies up in arms and scrambling to combat it. This program even out-discounts Costco, the king of discounts. For example: Costco's discount on the sale of a home priced from \$200,000 TO \$224,999 is \$1,775 while

Homes-Link will save the homeowner from \$6,000 TO \$6,749.97. On a home priced between \$300,000 and \$349,999, Costco's savings is \$2,800 and at Homes-Link the savings grows to \$9,000 - \$10,499.97. The savings continue to go up from there.

The program is deceptively simple. Sellers work along side their realtor in a partnership based program. The program is a fee for services rendered program rather than a flat 6% commission as is charged by conventional real estate companies. By using a fee for services based program, smart sellers in today's market are

enjoying sales prices in many cases over asking price in surprisingly quick order. This simple, easy to understand program has saved hundreds of home-sellers thousands of dollars in unnecessary real estate commissions, while allowing them additional dollars for their next purchase or for their retirement plans.

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**NEW LISTING - PIEDMONT TRADITIONAL.....\$798,000**  
Gracious and elegant Traditional with high ceilings, mansion-like rooms, wood moldings, custom wood shutters, 2BD, 2 1/2 BA, family room, formal dining room, fabulous master suite with view!  
111 Bar Ave. NAHID NASSIRI 510-531-1670

**NEIGHBORHOOD! WELL-ESTABLISHED.....\$199,500**  
Delightful home in Bay Area in San Leandro. Tree-lined st. shows pride of ownership. 3BD, 1 1/2 BA, new tile, fireplace, 1-car garage, fenced yard, mature trees, gas entry into home.  
1059 Grace St. San Leandro NAHID NASSIRI 510-531-1670

## Shown By Appointment

**CAN YOU IMAGINE?.....\$1,950,000**  
Former Walnut Creek summer estate built in 1881, "The Mansion at Lakewood" offers the perfect "get away from it all". Seven exquisite bedrooms offer one delightful surprise after another. The grand Victorian parlor welcomes you. Stroll the grounds while enjoying the peace you long for. Call for all the details.  
MARILU 925-837-2200

**DANVILLE/PLEASANTON.....\$1,285,000**  
5BD, 3 1/2 BA. Huge gourmet kitchen, formal living room, formal dining room, large family room. Includes 6-stall barn, 4 fenced pastures, orchards of fruit trees. Convenient location near Blackhawk.  
MIRA GOETSCH 925-837-2200

**PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP.....\$629,900**  
WOW! Just remodeled beauty. 5BD, 3BA with 1BD downstairs. Gleaming hardwood floors, built-in desk, huge family room, pool, gorgeous grounds, RV parking.  
FRANCISCO CABRERA 925-837-2200



**BEST BUY IN MONTCLAIR.....\$549,500**  
Charming Traditional. 3BD, 3BA. Home office, family room, formal dining room, hardwood, 1/3 acre. Gorgeous yard for privacy and much more.  
6833 Moore. MARTHA SHIN 510-287-9806

**LOFTY MONUMENTS (AT NON-PROFIT PRICE).....\$307,950**  
Jack London Square, 1,411 sq.ft. in award-winning, 10-unit Pocket Building. High beamed ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows, 1-car secure parking, and walk to marina, shopping, restaurants.  
SHERDELLA SIMS 510-287-9586

**24.64 ACRES! SAN RAMON!.....\$595,000**  
4 waterfalls, 2 springs, community well, hay barn with tack room, 5,000 gallon holding tank, electricity, private paved road to edge of property, borders park on two sides, fenced, surveyed and views. Some seller financing.  
RON GATTI 925-837-2200

**NEW ON MARKET!.....\$529,900**  
Sharp 4BD, 3BA on a level private Danville lot with court location. Open floor plan features formal living/dining, volume ceilings, kitchen/family room combo, 2 fireplaces, plus many builder upgrades and extras. Popular neighborhood in area of more expensive homes, close to shopping, dining entertainment and parks. Community amenities include clubhouse, pool, spa, and tennis. Mature landscape with beautiful redwoods.  
NORM MAHALICH 925-837-2200

**DANVILLE.....\$526,950**  
Wonderful 5BD plus den and library, 3BA, 2,000+ sq.ft. Remodeled and updated. Pool, spa. Great area. Close to parks and schools. All new dual pane windows.  
NORM STANLEY 925-837-2200

## Shown By Appointment



**MEDITERRANEAN DELIGHT!.....\$475,000**  
Spacious upper Oakmore with gorgeous bay and canyon view! Two fireplaces, large level back yard. Elegant!  
PATRICIA BENNETT 510-482-9000

**FANTASTIC CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION.....\$519,950**  
4BD, 2BA. Gorgeous hardwood entry. Close to green belt, park. Near Green Brook community pool and tennis.  
NORM STANLEY 925-837-2200

**WEST SIDE! DANVILLE!.....\$489,000**  
Breathtaking views of Las Trampas. Beautiful 3BD, 2 1/2 BA. Hardwood floors, 48 acre lot. Great expansion potential. Spa. Newer furnace & A/C.  
RON GATTI 925-837-2200



**READY TO BUILD.....\$210,000**  
Craftsman plans and a wooded lot in Montclair. Walk to Village. Easy S.F. commute.  
C. HARTLEY 510-287-9588

**LANDMARK 5-UNIT BUILDING.....\$389,000**  
Designated "landmark" by the City of Oakland, this charming Haddon Hill building has high ceilings, hardwood floors, lots of light, plus parking, laundry, yard.  
PATRICIA BENNETT 510-482-9000

**UPPER ROCKRIDGE LOT.....\$59,000**  
Upslope lot on dead end street on Shendean off Cochrane. Desirable area with wonderful schools. 50x100. All underground assessments have been prepaid.  
NAHID NASSIRI 510-531-1670

## BUYING A HOME?

Free special report you must read before you buy.... Free report provides essential tips and points on how to get the best price for your next home! Call to order your free copy.  
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WEEKLY HOME SALES

Compiled by TitleTech

**ALAMEDA**  
420 Cola Ballena #D - \$331,000  
21 Courageous Ct #59A - \$345,000  
19 Hampton Ct - \$402,000  
3105 La Campana - \$200,000  
7 Lagorio Ct - \$475,000  
1555 Mozart St - \$305,000  
3437 Oleander Av - \$290,000  
617 Pacific Av #C - \$154,000  
2015 San Antonio Av #A - \$420,000  
2268 San Antonio Av - \$330,000  
2265 San Jose Av - \$270,000  
3290 San Jose Av - \$415,000  
609 Waterview Is - \$456,000  
1327 Webster St - \$65,500

**ALBANY**  
612 Adams St - \$280,000  
611 Talbot Av - \$342,000

**BERKELEY**  
2109 5th St - \$400,000  
1814 63rd St #A - \$105,000  
2737 Acton St - \$196,000  
1171 Arch St - \$260,000  
808 Arlington Av - \$630,000  
1650 Ashby Av - \$254,000  
1124 Bancroft Wy - \$295,000  
2902 Buena Vista Wy - \$789,000  
2732 Claremont Bl - \$500,000  
1633 Curtis St - \$325,000  
2261 Derby St - \$358,000  
2765 Dohr St - \$302,000  
801 Folger Av - \$401,000  
1635 Kains Av - \$309,000  
1118 Keith Av - \$350,000  
981 Miller Av - \$656,500  
1419 Parker St - \$295,000  
2401 Prospect St - \$485,000  
379 Vassar Av - \$325,000  
930 Virginia St - \$145,000  
3115 Wheeler St - \$289,000  
5 Woodmont Ct - \$830,000

**EL CERRITO**  
2608 Ellerhorst Av - \$150,000  
941 Everett St - \$213,500  
424 Norvell St - \$399,000  
7352 Pebble Beach Wy - \$486,000  
1624 Richmond St - \$238,000

**EMERYVILLE**  
5514 Doyle St #11 - \$201,000

**KENSINGTON**

5 Norwood Av - \$300,000  
**OAKLAND**  
1631 100th Av - \$135,000  
1839 103rd Av - \$87,500  
755 19th St - \$195,000  
1457 27th Av - \$136,000  
1515 33rd Av - \$155,000  
3765 39th Av - \$148,000  
1853 40th Av - \$87,500  
851 44th St - \$170,000  
415 48th St - \$170,000  
449 59th St - \$247,000  
2557 60th Av - \$189,000  
451 60th St - \$300,000  
1164 62nd Av - \$123,000  
1027 76th Av - \$100,000  
2698 78th Av - \$65,000  
1626 79th Av - \$1,024,500  
1440 83rd Av - \$85,000  
2277 87th Av - \$80,000  
2260 90th Av - \$120,000  
1019 Aileen St - \$150,000  
174 Alta Rd - \$825,000  
1757 Auseon Av - \$125,000  
6541 Bancroft Av - \$145,000  
565 Bellevue Av #2504 - \$230,000  
565 Bellevue Av #49 - \$213,000  
4353 Bermuda Av - \$280,000  
6027 Buena Vista Av - \$513,000  
9863 Burr St - \$147,000  
6825 Colton Bl - \$475,000  
4048 Coolidge Av - \$390,000  
4218 Coolidge Av - \$415,000  
3856 Dale Pl - \$150,000  
4400 Davenport Av - \$167,000  
2836 Delaware St - \$143,000  
1115 East 24th St - \$122,500  
2204 East 24th St - \$100,000  
1322 East 27th St - \$185,000  
2120 East 30th St - \$130,000  
3503 East 8th St - \$118,000  
10517 East Cr - \$117,500  
10532 East Ct - \$117,500  
6109 Eastlawn St - \$68,000  
5 Embarcadero #129 - \$95,500  
1 Embarcadero #159 - \$86,000  
5660 Estates Dr - \$349,000  
80 Evergreen Ln - \$500,000  
801 Franklin St #1112 - \$145,000  
8522 G St - \$70,000  
1809 Gouldin Rd - \$350,000  
2715 Grande Vista Av - \$167,000  
10359 Greenview Dr - \$362,000  
3543 Hageman Av - \$139,000  
322 Hanover Av #104 - \$218,000  
5817 Harbord Dr - \$350,000  
6348 Heather Ridge Wy - \$385,000

**On the average**  
**ALAMEDA**  
TOTAL SALES: 14  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$ 65,500  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$475,000  
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$330,000  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$318,464

**ALBANY**  
TOTAL SALES: 2  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$280,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$342,000  
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 0  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$311,000

**BERKELEY**  
TOTAL SALES: 22  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$105,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$830,000  
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$325,000  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$386,341

**EL CERRITO**  
TOTAL SALES: 5  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$150,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$486,000  
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$213,500  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$297,300

**EMERYVILLE**  
TOTAL SALES: 1  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$201,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$201,000  
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 0  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$201,000

**KENSINGTON**  
TOTAL SALES: 1  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$300,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$300,000

32 Keswick Ct - \$366,500  
21 Kingwood Rd - \$456,000  
3812 Laguna Av - \$232,000  
325 Lenox Av #103 - \$92,000  
2701 Logan St - \$110,000  
180 Louvaine Av - \$115,000  
64 Maiden Ln - \$359,000  
3052 Malcolm Av - \$300,000  
4021 Maple Av - \$179,000  
5251 Masonic Av - \$505,000  
3167 Monterey Bl - \$410,000  
5924 Monzal Av - \$560,000  
8635 Mountain Bl #53 - \$145,000  
1732 Mountain Bl - \$387,000

MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 0  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$300,000

**BART**  
TOTAL SALES: 79  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$ 65,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,024,500  
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 170,000  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$ 244,620

**PIEDMONT**  
TOTAL SALES: 2  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$ 519,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$1,769,500  
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$ 0  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$1,144,250

**REDWOOD CITY**  
TOTAL SALES: 46  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$ 52,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$435,000  
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$157,000  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$178,717

**SAN LEANDRO**  
TOTAL SALES: 23  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$ 95,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$492,500  
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$225,000  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$248,304

**SAN LORENZO**  
TOTAL SALES: 10  
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$192,000  
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$319,000  
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$230,000  
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$246,100

425 Orange St #217 - \$90,000  
6767 Pinehaven Rd - \$488,000  
4141 Rhoda Av - \$440,000  
8908 Seneca St - \$170,000  
14330 Skyline Bl - \$520,000  
4834 Stacy St - \$314,000  
2720 Truman Av - \$140,000  
670 Vernon St #204 - \$250,000  
500 Vernon St #310 - \$181,000  
6185 Westover Dr - \$355,000

**PIEDMONT**  
198 Maxwellton Rd - \$519,000  
420 Wildwood Av - \$1,769,500

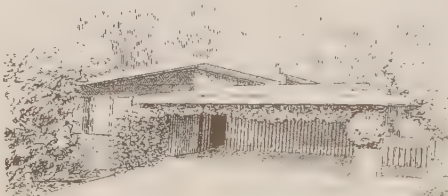
**RICHMOND**  
628 17th St - \$215,000  
2429 18th St - \$235,000  
1719 2nd St - \$54,500  
773 33rd St - \$172,000  
6076 Arlington Bl - \$212,500  
315 Ash Ln - \$293,000  
3024 Avon Ln - \$131,000  
3311 Barrett Av - \$180,000  
5848 Bernhard Av - \$210,000  
849 Bridgeway Cr - \$350,000  
887 Bridgeway Cr - \$388,000  
1430 Brissell Av - \$90,000  
59 Campo Verde Cr #59 - \$138,000  
1115 Chanslor Av - \$52,000  
2901 Chevy Wy - \$145,500  
520 Civic Ct - \$160,000  
3911 Clinton Av - \$180,000  
303 Commodore Dr - \$210,000  
2343 Downer Av - \$113,500  
1701 Emeric Av - \$154,000  
2326 Emeric Av - \$128,000  
1000 Evergreen Terrace #1308 - \$105,000  
2505 Gaynor Av - \$170,000  
3410 Grasswood Dr - \$245,000  
3139 Grey Hawk Ct - \$298,500  
3151 Henderson Dr - \$160,000  
2434 Humphrey Av - \$125,000  
716 Lassen St - \$155,000  
1216 Marin Av - \$205,000  
1461 Mariposa St - \$142,500  
1098 Mitchell Wy - \$140,000  
2616 Ohio Av - \$157,000  
3712 Painted Pony Rd - \$269,500  
3503 Rheem Av - \$110,000  
49 Sandpoint Dr - \$435,000  
42 Sanford Av - \$75,000  
28 Seagull Dr - \$359,000  
387 South 37th St - \$145,000  
814 South 45th St - \$130,000  
125 South 7th St - \$70,000  
243 South 7th St - \$109,000  
5724 Sutter Av - \$170,000  
6111 Sutter Av - \$206,000  
1080 View Dr - \$182,000  
1834 Wilcox Av - \$109,000  
718 Wilson Av - \$136,500

**SAN LEANDRO**  
681 Arbor Dr - \$260,000  
16041 Cambrian Dr - \$225,000  
1895 Cedar Av - \$225,000  
2018 Constitution Ct - \$225,000  
715 Dutton Av - \$320,000  
2521 Galleon Pl #126 - \$225,000  
1592 Graff Av - \$349,000  
1599 Hays St #401 - \$225,000  
14475 Kings Ct - \$154,000  
836 Martin Bl - \$192,500  
1019 Midway Av - \$137,000  
444 Mitchell Av - \$243,000  
3854 Monterey Bl - \$225,000  
1594 Oriole Av - \$180,000  
738 Portola Dr - \$267,000  
1572 Rake Ct - \$239,000  
2470 Ranspot Dr - \$311,000  
1449 Sandelin Av - \$242,000  
1732 Sidney Av - \$220,000  
2021 Strang Av - \$200,000  
1532 View Dr - \$400,000  
14820 Wake Av - \$210,000  
14837 Western Av - \$225,000

**SAN LORENZO**  
2161 Corte Hornitos - \$225,000  
15891 Devonwood Wy - \$225,000  
958 Hacienda Av - \$215,000  
16105 Via Alamitos - \$180,000  
17032 Via Corona - \$28,000  
15843 Via Del Prado - \$21,000  
16025 Via Del Sol - \$21,000  
15973 Via Media - \$218,000  
17350 Via Susana - \$31,000  
971 William Dr - \$297,000

This list was compiled for publication in Hills Newspapers by TitleTech, an Oakland real estate information company, which weekly records from the county recorder's office. Neither company guarantees the accuracy or completeness of the information prices are based upon applicable county transfer taxes. Call 510-568-7233.

Open Sunday  
January 9 and January 16



85 Kingston Road  
KENSINGTON FIXER! \$285,000

Quiet Cul-de-Sac Location  
Large Lot Size 8,500 sq. ft.  
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms Master Bedroom/Bath Suite  
Built in 1946 1,549 sq. ft.  
Dining Room has Golden Gate Bridge and Bay View  
Central Heat Two Newer Furnaces  
Private Brick Patio Large Usable Side Rear Yard  
As-Is Sale  
Needs Roof, Foundation and Drainage Repairs



Deborah Everett  
510/524-8508  
Deb.Everett@att.net

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and Desk Fee Agents.

BAY AREA HOME mortgage RATES

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION	30-YEAR FIXED RATE+POINTS(APR)	1-YEAR ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	3-YEAR ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	7-YEAR ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS
Aston Financial Group 925-934-5323	7.875+0(8.20) 7.5+2(7.81)	3.95+1(7.56)	7.125+1(7.55)	7.25+	Save thousands of dollars with our discounted real estate services. Call for details.
CMG Mortgage, Inc. 800-788-6522 CA DRE 01170028	7.625+1.5(7.84) 7.5+2(7.74) 7.375+2.5(7.59)	6.25+1(6.99) 5.875+0(6.59) 3.5+1(6.89)	7.125+1(7.29) 6.875+1.5(7.19) 6.625+2(7.09)	7.25+1.5(7.27) 7+2(7.19) 6.875+2.5(7.12)	Open Saturday and Sunday. Low-doc and quick quality programs. Web: www.SteveCarlin.com Email: steve@stevecarlin.com
Discovery Mortgage Co. 510-539-7245	7.875+0 7.375+2.125 7.25+2.75	5.875+0	7.375+0 7.25+25 7.125+75	7.625+0 7.375+1.5 6.875+2.375	Jumbos: 30yr 7.75+2.125(8.00); 15yr 7.375+2.25(7.79). COFI 1mo ARM 3.95+5(7.57). Direct lender, 40 years experience. All types of borrowers. Fixed, ARM loans.
Downey Savings & Loan 800-780-6614	7.625+2(7.89)	NQ	NQ	NQ	Jumbo: 30yr 7.75+2.125(8.00); 15yr 7.375+2.25(7.79). COFI 1mo ARM 3.95+5(7.57). Direct lender, 40 years experience. All types of borrowers. Fixed, ARM loans.
FINet.com 800-641-7556	7.875+0(7.96) 7.625+1(7.81)	6.75+0(8.21)	7.25+0(8.21) 7+1(8.21)	7.75+0(8.21) 7.5+1(8.21)	Funding the American Dream at www.FINet.com
J&J Mortgage Corporation 925-254-1271	7.75+1(7.81)	6.125+1(6.36)	7+1(7.06)	7.375+1(7.48)	FHA/VA specialists. Se habla Español. Bankers since 1949. FHA 30yr ARM. Lock 60 days, caps 1% & 5%.
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626	8+0(8.13)	5.875+0(7.86)	7.375+0(7.50)	7.75+0(7.88)	Credit problems, bankrupt, difficult loans our specialty. All government loans. 100% loans, credit lines, construction. 20 years of service. Appointments anytime! 1-800-837-LOAN.

Information is current as of January 4, 2000. For information on specific mortgage programs, call the lender. Rates, points and programs are subject to change and cannot be guaranteed. Points include discount and origination fees. Most quotes are for 30-day lock-in, unless otherwise stated. Rates quoted are based on loan amounts of \$125,000. Maximum conventional loan amount: \$252,700. Jumbo loans are in excess of \$252,700. Annual Percentage Rate (APR)—an interest rate reflecting the cost of a mortgage as a yearly rate. This rate is likely to be higher than the stated note rate or advertised rate on the mortgage, because it takes into account points and other credit costs. The APR allows homebuyers to compare different types of mortgages based on the annual cost for each loan. ARM—adjustable rate mortgage. LTV—loan to value. MI—mortgage insurance. NA—not available. NQ—rate not quoted. Lenders, to be listed in this paid column, call 1-800-CNS-8825. To calculate your exact mortgage payments using our electronic payment calculator and for extensive mortgage, real estate, and consumer financial information, including tips and definitions of terms, please visit our website at [www.cnsweb.com](http://www.cnsweb.com). Copyright 2000 Consumer News Systems



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SOLD SOLD SOLD



33 Sheridan Road, Upper Rockridge  
Stunning new construction in desirable upper Rockridge with level yard, bay and bridge views. 4+BR/3BA home has top quality detailing throughout. Offered at \$959,000  
Sheila Gallagher  
Office: 510.339.0400/245  
Home: 510.601.5726  
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Security Pacific  
Real Estate Brokerage  
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510-222-8870  
<http://www.spre.com>

RICHMOND VIEW

COZY HOME WITH A VIEW!.....\$175,000  
2 bdrm 1 ba, home to 920 sq. ft., carport, large level backyard with fruit trees and view! #99044291

Sian Yap (510) 662-8467

CUSTOM HOME NEAR WILDCAT CANYON...\$259,000  
3 bdrm 1 ba almost 1400 sq. ft., 1 car att garage access, BAY view, fenced yard, central heat, shingle roof, deluxe kitchen, newly finished hardwood flrs, dream garden. #99045171  
(510) 662-8528

EL SOBRANTE/RICHMOND

SPECTACULAR VIEW HOME.....\$350,000  
4 bdrm 2 ba over 1/4 acre lot! 2 car att garage w/int access. Remodeled kitchen w/Corian countertops, tub, excellent setting with total privacy, huge lot back to open space #99041681  
Rony Atme (510) 662-8475

RICHMOND/COLLEGE DISTRICT

BAY VIEW/MOVE-IN-CONDITION.....\$159,000  
3 bdrm 1 1/4 ba, 2927 Mckenzie (Open Sun 2-4) car garage & int. access, remodeled kitchen & new: carpet, paint, linoleum & garage door, large level backyard, clear pest report. #00000363  
Geri Stern (510) 662-8469

BERKELEY

CENTRAL BERKELEY.....\$249,000  
4 bdrm 2 ba, approx 1365 sq. ft. Close to BART, shopping, new roof & paint. #99031919  
Jamie Lake (510) 662-8487

Visit our website -  
<http://www.spre.com>



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## LaSalle Properties company logo wins design award of distinction

LaSalle Properties, a locally owned, independent residential real estate company, is proud to announce that its company logo, created by award winning graphic artist, Diane Foug, has received an award of distinction in an international competition that drew more than 7,000 entries from 40 countries.

"The logo, suggesting both a home and a puzzle, captured the imagination of our office and our clients," said Philip Weingrow, president of LaSalle Properties.

"I'm not surprised these symbols have international appeal. For many, finding the right home and making it theirs can be a puzzle. As a group of experienced local Realtors, we believe we offer a key element in solving the puzzle."

The winners of "The Creativity 29 Competition" will be listed along with their winning entries and published by Hearst Books International later this year.



— LaSalle Properties

Financing Your Dreams  
YOUR HOME LOAN EXPERT

## Purchase or Refinance

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MORTGAGE LENDING WITH  
CONSIDERATION AND CARE

STEVEN WALDEN  
**FISHMAN**  
Financial Group  
Incorporated



Phone: 510-528-2255  
Pager: 510-391-2293  
Email: swalden@fishman.com

1503 Solano Avenue, Berkeley, CA

Licensed by CA Dept. of Real Estate

FREE LENDER PRE-APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES

## Purchase or Refinance

CREATE THE LIFE YOU WANT  
MORTGAGE LENDING WITH  
CONSIDERATION AND CARE

STEVEN WALDEN  
**FISHMAN**  
Financial Group  
Incorporated



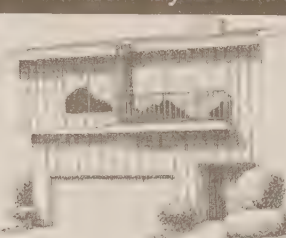
Phone: 510-528-2255  
Pager: 510-391-2293  
Email: swalden@fishman.com

1503 Solano Avenue, Berkeley, CA

Licensed by CA Dept. of Real Estate

FREE LENDER PRE-APPROVAL FOR PURCHASES

## Open Sunday 2-4:30



## 35 Rinnacle Hill, Hiller Highlands

Lovely Hiller Highlands townhouse with smashing Bay view. 2BR/2 BA plus loft, private terrace off kitchen. Popular location. Spacious garage and ample storage. Offered at \$489,000

Elizabeth Dickson  
Office: 510.339.0400/218  
Home: 510.849-0801  
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The GRUBBCo.com

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

WELLS & BENNETT REALTORS  
531-7000

## OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 4:30 P.M.



## 3700 - 3706 MAPLE.....\$419,000

NEW LISTING! Upgraded units w/some views, condominium like setup. Corner building w/excellent privacy & light. Excellent maintained building, fresh paint & new roof in 1997. Great for owner occupant.

Carlo Tamburino ext. 279



## 5653 FLORENCE TERRACE.....\$295,000

NEW LISTING! Montclair Ridge in upscale, convenient location. Fixer with much potential. One plus bedroom private hot tub deck.

Peter Nicolopoulos 339-9780

2832 MONTICELLO.....\$199,000  
NEW LISTING! Maxwell Park with potential! Three bedroom, formal dining room with built-ins, eat-in kitchen, huge basement to develop, large yard!

Kate Phillips 436-4100

## BY APPOINTMENT



## PIEDMONT PINES CONTEMPORARY.....\$380,000

Upgraded '60's modern in move-in condition. Walls of glass out to peaceful, wooded view. Close-in location. Three bedrooms, two baths.

Peter Nicolopoulos 339-9780

## COMING SOON!.....\$360,000

Great two bedroom home in Berkeley. Large yard, garage. Close to Monterey Market. For further information, contact agent.

Beth DeAtley 531-7006 ext. 234

## NEW NORTH OAKLAND LISTING.....\$215,000

DUPLEX! Converted Victorian era home. Needs some work lots of charm! Walking distance to BART! Attention SF buyers! PCR available.

Frank Hennefer 654-6461

## CRAFTSMAN/VICTORIAN.....\$185,000

Two-Story 2 bedroom, living room, dining room, remodeled kitchen and bath. Full partially finished basement, New carpet and vinyl floors, new paint. Nice rear yard.

Frank Hennefer 654-6461

## TOWNHOME.....\$165,000

Oakland, near Redwood Rd & 35th Ave. 6-Year old, 2BD/2.5BA, living room w/frplc, dining room, laundry in unit, Euro-style kitchen, 2-story unit w/pvt rear yard, basmt, security gate entrance.

Frank Hennefer 654-6461

## 1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND

• LAKE TAHOE 1-800-858-2463 Vacation Rentals/Sales

• WALNUT CREEK (925) 938-8484

http://www.wellsandbennett.com

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Thursday, January 13

**Seminar.** "Remodeling and Additions: What you need to know?" Planning to remodel your home? Paul Winans of Winans Construction, Inc., and Deborah Lane, AIA will cover such topics as design, working with an architect and structural engineer, zoning, time requirements, budgeting, contractors and contracts. Free. Rockridge Library, 5366 College Ave., Oakland, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Call 510-597-5017.

## Ongoing

**UC Botanical Garden.** Enjoy a free tour of the UC Botanical Garden at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Special-interest classes on a variety of subjects available. The garden is located on Centennial Drive behind the UC-Berkeley campus. Call 510-642-3343.

**Credit counseling.** Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a nonprofit com-

munity service organization in Oakland has a series of free workshops. Registration is mandatory. Call (800) 501-SAVE.

**Discover Oakland's** changing skyline, landmarks, churches and high-rises on one of the free guided walking tours sponsored by the city's Community and Economic Development Agency. Call 510-238-3234.

**Sick plant clinic.** Join University of California pathologist Dr. Robert Raabe from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month for a free Sick Plant Clinic at the UC Botanical Gardens, 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. Drop in with a piece of a sick or a dying plant and Dr. Raabe will diagnose the problem. Call 510-643-2755.

**Zero-down loans:** Pizza seminar for

East County families, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. at First American Title, 3397 Deer Valley Road, Antioch. Presented by Community Funding. 925-778-4500.

**First-time home buyers seminar:** Learn how to buy a house in East County for minimal or no money down; classes held regularly at American Title, 1210 Central Blvd., Brentwood. Call 925-516-5795 for schedule.

**California Association of Residential Lenders:** Group meets the second Thursday of the month, Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. 925-746-1847. Mortgage Brokers/idea House at San Francisco Design Center. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays through Jan. 28. Interior design exhibit of three homes. Free. See showrooms. 2 Henry Adams

St., S.F. 415-490-5800.

**Using government grants and loans to buy a home:** Learn how to buy a home for \$2,000 or less down, even with poor credit. Seminars Saturdays in Walnut Creek, Danville and Pleasanton by Re/Max and Golden Valley Mortgages. 925-362-0426.

**Credit-report preparation:** Learn how to get your credit ready to apply for a home loan (free credit report). Free weekly classes at Diablo Funding Group, 587 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek. 925-945-6112, Ext. 380.

We accept event announcements on a space-available basis. Fax listings for this section to 510-339-4066, write 5707 Redwood Road, Oakland 94619 or e-mail jsnyder1@ctimes.com.

Prudential  
California Realty\* Indicates Homes Being  
Held Open Sunday

## OAKLAND / PIEDMONT

\*Open Sunday  
Piedmont.....\$849,000  
121 Hagar Ave. 4BD/3.5BA with  
upgraded kit. Hwd flrs. Fam. rm.  
Gorgeous S.F./pno view.  
Don Watson 510-339-9290

Hiller Highlands Twhs  
\$785,000

Millennium elegance - last twhs to be built. 2+BD/2.5BA. Pano views.  
Nancy Platford 510-845-0200

\*Open Sunday!.....\$580,000  
35 Windward Hill 3BD/2.5BA Hiller  
Highlands townhouse w/ terrific bay  
views.  
Pamela Cornford 510-339-9290

\*Montclair Magic!.....\$575,000  
Open Sunday. 2187 Magellan Dr. New  
listing! 3BD/2BA. Great yd w/ large  
gorgeous deck. Privacy!  
George Millirons 510-339-9290

\*Open Sunday.....\$554,000  
6818 Charing Cross Road. Newly  
const. 3+BD/2.5BA w/ so. Bay view.  
Gourmet kit. Great Neighborhood.  
Y. Ben-David 510-339-9290

Well Maintained  
Home.....\$295,000  
4BD/2BA & studio, hwd flrs, mst  
bedroom w/ retreat & balcony, frplc,  
3-car driveway & garage, hills view.  
Walter Edmonson/  
Victoria W. 510-452-6114

Prime Units.....\$549,000  
Lower North Oakland. 8 units. New  
roof. Off street parking. Corner of 28th  
& West.  
Edwina Taylor 510-845-0200

Coming Soon!.....\$mid 200's  
A sweet brown shingle with attic  
retreat in North Oakland, 2 minutes to  
Berkeley/BART. 2+BD, 2BA.  
Barbara Reynolds 510-287-9361,  
510-845-0200

Lovely Cottage!  
\$149,000

2BD/1 BA. Hardwood floors,  
fireplace, small yard w/ deck.  
All this on popular private court!  
4117C Penniman, Oakland.  
Nancy Bailey 510-845-0200

Oakland-Maxwell  
Park.....\$117,500

Cute 2BD home. Ideal for first time  
buyers. Lots of charm. New fences.  
Call agent.  
Vince Moran 510-339-9290

## EMERYVILLE

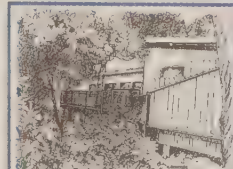
Emeryville  
Work/Live.....\$289,000

Great, soaring spaces! Hardwood  
floors, skylights, private deck all  
close to shops & transportation.  
Miriam Wilson 510-845-0211

## \*Open Sunday!.....\$245,000

6 Commodore. Emeryville Watergate  
condo with 2BD, 1.5BA. Fresh  
paint, updated appliances, new carpet.  
Angie Williams 510-339-9290

## SAN LEANDRO

Estudillo Estates  
\$380,000

This 3BD, 2BA creek side home sits  
at the end of a private court. Living  
room & dining room opens  
onto large deck.  
Candace Benny 510-428-0900

## ALAMEDA

Breathtaking Views..\$1,180,000  
This magnificent property has it all.  
4+BD/4.5BA. Over 4,000 sq.ft. 5 yrs.  
old. Brilliant views and setting.  
Anna M. Lei 510-527-9800  
510-273-9127

ALAMEDA (510) 337-8670	ALBANY (510) 510-2526	BERKELEY (510) 845-0200	BERKELEY NORTH (510) 849-3711	CLAREMONT (510) 841-1111
EL CERRITO (510) 527-9800	GRAND LAKE (510) 834-2010	KENSINGTON (510) 526-5143	MONTCLAIR (510) 339-9290	PIEDMONT (510) 428-0900

Find your home here, or call for more information.

Prudential California Realty, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Company.

## EL CERRITO

Grand Tudor Estate..\$750,000  
Luxury home. 4BD/3+BA. Panoramic  
views. Prof. Landscaping on 1/3 acre.  
Near Mira Vista CC. Marble fireplace,  
oak floors, amenities+.  
Vena Flint 510-233-6663,  
510-527-9800

## RICHMOND

\*El Sobrante Hills.....\$299,900  
Open 2-4. 4832 Morwood Dr.  
Elegant & stylish 3BD/2BA, stunning  
upgraded kitchen & family rm, bright  
& airy marble fireplace.  
Alikey Vasdekis 510-644-5255

## COMM. INVESTMENT

Four Storefronts.....\$650,000  
Commercial building in Northwest  
Berkeley commercial corridor, near  
BART.  
Barbara Levy 510-420-1055,  
510-849-3711

Mixed Use  
Commercial.....\$380,000  
Berkeley North. Grocery-liquor-deli  
store front w/ 3BD/2BA residential in  
back. Separate entrance, garage, bsmt.  
Barbara Levy 510-869-2786,  
510-849-3711

## LOT FOR SALE

Montclair Lot!.....\$76,800  
Great location w/ bay and wooded  
views. Bring your builder! Utilities on  
site.  
Debora Larson 510-339-9290

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1-800-499-5551





# YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE

# OPEN HOMES

## OPEN SUNDAY\*

### ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
758 Linrick Diana Lukits, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4818	484/38a	2-4	\$529,000
2930 Gibbons George Williams, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 522-7173	384/2 + 8a	2-4	\$517,000
312 Sand Beach Rd. Hermie Rones, 925-830-8495, ERA Golden Hills	5 bd/4 baS u n . 2 - 430		\$488,000
1427 Paru St Glen Scharf, Only Signe Nelson, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 521-0328	3 84-8a	2-4	\$485,000
516 Central Ave Wolfsrud property Watt Calvert, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1129	-84-8a	2-4	\$399,900
211 McDonnell Marsa McIntyre, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4827	394/2 Ba	2-4	\$398,500
110 Post Tim Mian, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4817	384/28a	2-4	\$378,000
3528 Bowman Mark Playsted, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4874	384/2 - 8a	2-4	\$328,800
2164 Alameda Dana Zook-Short, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4823	284-8a	2-4	\$320,000
1312 Farnside Blvd Signe Nelson, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 521-0328	284-8a	2-4	\$289,500
872 Oak St Darlene Gardner, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1104	384-8a	2-4	\$268,000
2101 Shoreline Dr. Resalina Fortun, Fortuna Realty (510) 521-4753 (510) 338-4753	284/1.58a	2-4:30	\$252,000

### ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1624-A Ninth St Bill Rossett, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1108	2 + 84/18a	2-4	\$239,500
3029 Linda Vista Tom Young, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4841	384/1 + 8a	2-4	\$230,000
1311 Webster St E315 Vince San Nicolas, Alameda Realty (510) 522-8585	-84-8a	1-3:30	\$224,500
447 Lincoln Kitty Wain, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1128	284/18a	2-4	\$219,000
645 Haight Russ Grant, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4713	284/1 + 8a	2-4	\$195,000
960 Shorepoint #101 Julie Rivard, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4870	184/18a	2-4	\$145,000
455 Central Ave #A Linda Larkin 522-8749 Tony Armida 521-6149, Centennial Real Estate	184/18a	2-4	\$102,000
455 Central Ave #A Linda Larkin 522-8749 Tony Armida 521-6149, Centennial Real Estate	184/18a	2-4	\$109,000

### BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2804 Hillegass Camille Rogers, Prudential (510) 845-0280	184/18a	2-4	\$220,000

### EL CERRITO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
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### EMERYVILLE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6 Commodore #448 Angie Williams, Prudential (510) 339-8290	284/1 + 8a	2-4:30	\$245,000

### KENSINGTON

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
85 Kingston Rd. KENSINGTON FIXER-Views of Two Bridges and Bay Deborah Everett, (510) 524-8586, Jeans Realty	384/28a	2-4	\$285,000

### MORAGA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
140 Walford Rose Rauschko, Coldwell Banker (925) 254-7777	484/2 - 8a	1-4	\$679,000
51 Ascot Place Jim Rauschko, Coldwell Banker - Orinda (925) 254-3030	2 + 84/28a	1-4	\$329,000

### OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6042 Manchester Dr Rockledge (Upper) Dea Knowland, Pacific Union 339-6460	484/38a	2-4:30	\$2,400,000
3 Schooner Hill Tricia Swift, Templeton Company (510) 652-2133 x 140	384/2.58a	2-4:30	\$595,000
35 Windward Hill Hiller Highlands Pamela Comfort, Prudential (510) 339-8290	384/2.58a	2-4:30	\$580,000

### OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2167 Magellan Dr Montclair George Williams, Prudential (510) 339-8290	384/28a	2-4:30	\$575,000
6818 Charing Cross Y. Ben-David, Prudential (510) 339-8290	3 + 84/28a	2-4:30	\$554,000
6833 Moore Montclair Martha Shan, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-9806	384/28a	2-4:30	\$549,500
6885 Oakwood Montclair Nancy Dickey, Coldwell Banker-Montclair (510) 339-4700	4 - 84/38a	2-4:30	\$499,000
6849 Broadway Terrace Montclair Ashley O'Neil, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400	484-8a	2-4:30	\$495,000
35 Elmwood Hill Hiller Highlands Elizabeth Dickson, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400	284/28a	2-4:30	\$498,000
6012 Colton Blvd Montclair Erika Celestino, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400	384/38a	2-4:30	\$485,000
1917 Oakcrest Montclair Upper Oakland Montclair Better Homes (510) 339-8400	384/2 - 8a	2-4:30	\$475,000
16 Kimberly Ct Piedmont Pines Judy Rankin, The Grubb Co. (510) 339-0400	384/28a	2-4:30	\$469,000
854 Vermont St GRANDLAKES 854-856 Vermont, Spec. 2 - 1/1 Bats Sara, Red Oak Realty (510) 280-2105	2 + 84/18a	2-4	\$448,000

### OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
51 Ascot Place Jim Rauschko, Coldwell Banker - Orinda (925) 254-3030	2 + 84/28a	1-4	\$329,000
3706-3708 Maple Laurel - 4 units Carlo Tamburino, Wells & Bennett Realtors (510) 531-7000	-84-8a	1-4:30	\$418,000
577 Kenwyn Ramona Chang, Agent (510) 482-3800	2 + 84/18a	Sat. 2-4	\$375,000
790 Surrey Lane Sequoyah Hills Rosemary Greene, Montclair Better Homes (510) 339-4000	484/2 Ba	2-4:30	\$349,000
373 - 4th St Jack London Sq. 10 unit Pocket Bldg Sherdila Sims, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-9586	-84-8a	2-4:30	\$307,950
1600 Excelsior Ave Wall Robb 925-945-4559	3 bd/1.5 ba	1-4	\$299,000
5653 Florence Terrace Montclair Peter Nicolopoulos, Wells & Bennett Realtors (510) 531-7000	1 + 84/18a	2-4:30	\$295,000
3957 Lyman Dunwood Vicky Fasik, Coldwell Banker-Montclair (510) 339-4700	184/18a	1-4:30	\$198,000
2832 Montclair Maxwell Park Kate Phillips, Wells & Bennett Realtors (510) 531-7000 x228	384/18a	2-4:30	\$198,000
4117 C Penman Ct Nancy Bailey, Prudential (510) 845-0200	284-8a 130-430-		\$149,000
683 - 35th St Shirley Covington, Prudential CA Realty (510) 834-2010	284-8a	2-4:30	\$130,000

### ORINDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours
683 - 35th St Shirley Covington, Prudential CA Realty (510) 834-2010	284-8a	2-4:30

### PIEDMONT

Address & Realty	Size	Hours
121 Hagar Ave Don Watson, Prudential (510) 339-9290	484/3 Ba	2-4:30
711 Blair Ave Mahd Nassar, Montclair Better Homes (510) 531-7000	284/2 Ba	2-4:30
16 Schooner Hill Hiller Highlands H. Pittford, Prudential (510) 845-0200	2 84-8a	2-4:30

### RICHMOND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours
2927 McKenzie BAY VIEW Move-In Condition Bert Shorn, (510) 662-8488, Security Pacific R.E.	384/1.258a	2-4

### SAN LEANDRO

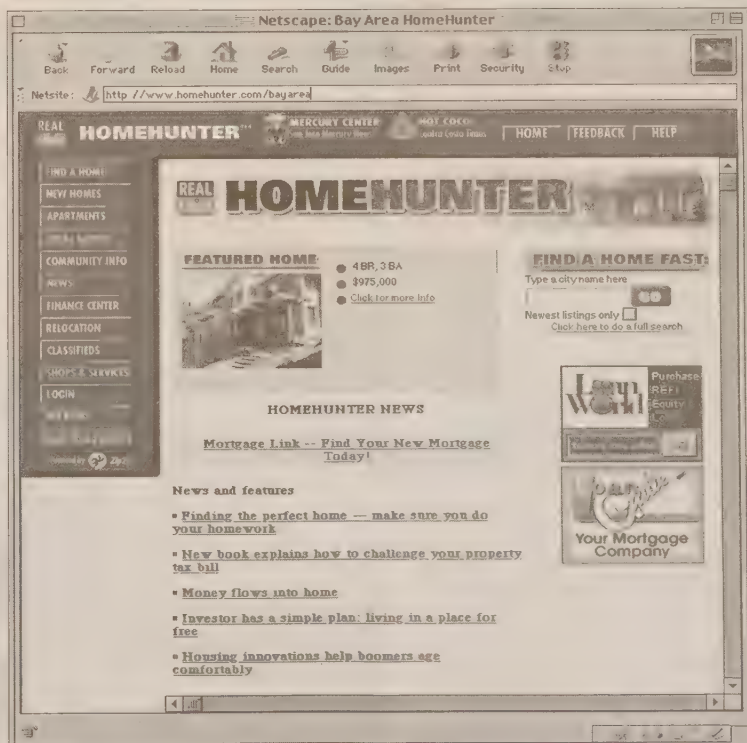
Address & Realty	Size	Hours
1059 Grace St Mahd Nassar, Montclair Better Homes (510) 531-7000	384/18a	2-4:30

Advertise in the Open Home Guide!  
The Montclair, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice,  
The Journal & The Alameda Journal  
CALL 748-1688 or FAX 748-1665  
\*unless otherwise indicated

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Call Monday-Thursday 7am to 7pm; Friday 7am to 6pm  
For an ad in person visit the Alameda Journal at 1516 Oak Street, Alameda  
Our fax: 925-943-8359; For legal notices or obituary notices,  
call 748-1666; Monday to Friday, 8:30am-5pm

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**Ad Starting:** Tuesday  
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Open Home Guide  
Friday

**Deadline:** 10am Monday  
9am Wednesday  
5pm Wednesday  
10am Thursday

\*Generations same as deadlines  
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ANNOUNCEMENTS	INSTRUCTION	EMPLOYMENT	PETS & SERVICES	MERCHANDISE	FINANCIAL	HOME & BUSINESS SERVICES	RENTALS	REAL ESTATE	TRANSPORTATION
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HILLS

## Classifieds







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**A LOST OR FOUND PET?**  
 Antioch, 1-800-866-5678  
 www.petfinder.com

**AMERICAN Eskimo mini fem**  
 fluffy white, 1210, \$100  
 (925) 825-1659

**Blue Merle Sheltie**, fem, 13  
 12/27/99 (925) 708-2214

**Chocolate Lab**, male, approx  
 90 lbs. "Hershey" very  
 loved, cat, \$150 (925) 825-1659

**CROSS** w/crown, ant. stones  
 lost mid Dec. Vic. Tiffin  
 (925) 825-1659

**DOG** Spaniel Terrier, small  
 fem, no tail. Black, white  
 & tan. \$100 (925) 825-1659

### 4B Lost

**GOLD** Collar Neckless, Coates  
 area. San Ramon. Reward  
 (925) 736-8697

**HUSKY** mix male, brown, tan  
 eyes, patchy, 10/1, 1/1  
 (925) 825-1659

**PARROT**, adult, green, 10'  
 high, 12/14, Gateway area  
 Oakley Park (925) 825-1659

**POMERANIAN**, Sm. all, blk  
 white around neck, 8-9 yrs  
 Reward needs made. No  
 questions (925) 825-1659

**TABBY** cat, brown-grey tiger  
 stripes, fem, 4-yr, short hair  
 declawed front, taken 12/20,  
 Livermore (925) 825-1659

**WIREHAIR** Fox terrier lost 1/1  
 white, 8/12, 4/12, white  
 with black on back with  
 facemask near 510-235-8815

**CAT**: silver grey long-haired  
 eyes, fem, N. Broadway &  
 Arroyo, W.C. 925-837-0627

### 8 Burial Lots

**DAKVIEW** Memorial, Antioch  
 1 plot in Garden of Hope  
 (925) 925-7577-4093

**SINGLE** Cryptolinda, ground-  
 level Rolling Hills cemetery in  
 Richmond, value \$8000, sell  
 for \$5495 (775) 882-2717

### 200 Schools & Instruction

**WORK AT HOME**  
 Attend Free Seminar  
 Super income as a Medical  
 Billing & Insurance Billing  
 you own hours. FIT, FIT, A-  
 1, Professionals etc. Free  
 Don't miss out! Call now  
 800-795-1388 Dept. CCTP10

### 203 Central Contra Costa Child Care

**AGE 2 & up**, any time, T.C.  
 hot meals, P.H. 120  
 (925) 920-9770 (925) 934-6410

**CHILD CARE** n. James Don  
 in Antioch, Ages 5-5, Low-  
 income. Christian (925) 755-  
 0845 Lic. #073402079

### 205 San Ramon Valley/Southern Alameda County Child Care

**4 SEASONS DAYCARE** 1-12  
 Child Care, CPR/First Aid  
 #073402122 (925) 855-8758

### 204 East Contra Costa County Child Care

**ACCEPTING** Enrollment, Toddler  
 Town home daycare, FIT, FIT, A-  
 1, Professionals etc. Free  
 (925) 427-7914

### 205A Alameda County Child Care

**Child care by Lic.**  
 professional, Ages 0-5  
 #073402178 Alameda Ex-  
 cell care & 12/12  
 (510) 337-0315

### 300 Pets & Services

**ADOPT-A-FRIEND**  
 Contra Costa Humane Soc.  
 Adopt or Place by Referral  
 All Spayed & Neutered  
 #073402178 Alameda Ex-  
 cell care & 12/12  
 (510) 337-0315

### 300 Pets & Services

**ADOPT A BEST FRIEND**  
 SPCA Thrift Store  
 1855 Adeline St., Con.  
 Sat. 10-4, Sun. 11-4  
 1825 S. Main St., Con.  
 Sat. 10-4, Sun. 11-4  
 925-689-8435

### 300 Pets & Services

**ADOPT A CAT OR DOG**  
 Contra Costa Humane Soc.  
 Mon-Sat 10-4 300 L St 925  
 778-6989 www.foss.org

### 300 Pets & Services

**ADOPT A DOG OR CAT**  
 Friends 705-2140  
 Petaluma, Pittsburg, Sun. 1-4

### 300 Pets & Services

**ADOPT-A-FRIEND**  
 Adopt or place by referral  
 All spayed/neutered (925) 844-8449

### 300 Pets & Services

**AMERICAN BULL DOG** pups,  
 parents on site, reg. ASA  
 2nd shot \$495 925-473-0951

### 300 Pets & Services

**AMERICAN BULLDOG** Adult  
 fem, ABA/NKC, top work line  
 Gd. h'm. \$150 (925) 708-9250

### 300 Pets & Services

**AMERICAN Eskimo** pup, St.  
 Rep. 10/12, 12/12, 12/12  
 \$500 925-736-2279

### 300 Pets & Services

**BORDER Collies AKC PUPS**, 2  
 male/fem, Blk/wh, Aussie  
 blood lines 530273-9628

### 300 Pets & Services

**BUNNIES** Mini Luv, English  
 Angora \$15-\$45, Adults &  
 babies. Cages \$25-60-4770

### 300 Pets & Services

**CATS** 7 mo, sweet, gentle  
 6 yrs, 1st free to good home  
 \$150 (925) 736-1925

### 300 Pets & Services

**COCKER SPANIEL**  
 3 YR male, blk, fixed, loving  
 \$150 (925) 736-1925

### 300 Pets & Services

**DALMATIAN** purebred male,  
 6 yrs, 1st free to good home  
 \$150 (925) 736-1925

### 300 Pets & Services

**DOG TRAINING**  
 Obedience, Housebreaking  
 Day care \$80-92-0915

### 300 Pets & Services

**ENGLISH Springer Spaniel**, 4  
 wks, fem, males, \$25/ea  
 610233-7047, 510233-7047

### 300 Pets & Services

**GERMAN SHEP PITTULL**  
 friendly, energetic 1 yr. Gt.  
 watchdog 925-933-7701

### 300 Pets & Services

**GERMAN Shep. pup**, AKC  
 11 wks, 1st free to good home  
 \$150 (925) 736-1925

### 300 Pets & Services

**GERMAN SHEPHERD** beautiful  
 puppies for sale \$200  
 ea Call Rob (925) 439-3122

### 300 Pets & Services

**GREY** Great Blue, pups, 12  
 wks, 2 qualified home  
 only \$950/ea (925) 939-1505

# Home & Business Services

### 550 Additions Remodeling & Carpentry

**MDH Construction**  
 Complete Home Remodeling & Repair  
 Kitchen & Bath Remodels  
 Room Additions • Decks  
 Fences • Windows  
 Earthquake Retrofitting  
 European Masonry  
 Project Management  
 510-652-2152

### 556 Carpets & Floors

**CRAFTCARE**  
 HARDWOOD FLOORS  
 Specializing in all phases of  
 hardwood floor care. Free  
 estimates. Call (925) 825-1659

**ALAMEDA** Hardwood Floors  
 Carp. Rego. Installer. All  
 types of hardwood floors  
 installed. Call (925) 825-1659

**NUMBER 1**  
 HARDWOOD FLOORS  
 Contra Costa Res. new inst.  
 2nd floor. Free est. \$10  
 220-2683, prg. 873-3191, jlc

**QUICK & RIGHT**  
 Professional wood cleaning  
 specialists. Hwd floors, jmo  
 concrete walls, windows  
 homes, acts. Bonded.  
 1963 Satisfaction Guar.  
 Since 1963 510-500-1254

### 559 Electrical

**Shelly Electric**  
 Contractor for Lake Merritt's  
 "Necklace of Lights"  
 Residential/Commercial  
 Service Repairs  
 Rewiring  
 Insurance Updates  
 24 Hr. Emergency Repairs  
 Call Ernie  
 531-0184  
 Since 1979

### 561 Garden and Yard & Services

**GARDENER** - 16 years local  
 exp., excel. ref. reasonable  
 rates. Call (925) 825-1659

**HOLLAND'S FINEST**  
 It's pruning time. Fruit trees,  
 roses, main. cleanup.  
 (925) 825-1659

**KIM'S LANDSCAPING**  
 lawns, sprinklers, ret. walls,  
 fences, decks, concrete, brick  
 (547) 873-0783

**MIKE'S GARDENING**  
 Hedges, slope, gutter clean-  
 up, brush clearing, haul, tree  
 care, trim, mow, weed, new  
 lawn, sod, etc. Free  
 (925) 825-1659

**RENOVATE YOUR YARD**  
 Consultation & Design  
 Omit, yd. care, tree care,  
 etc. Free. Call (925) 825-1659

**FREE SURGEON**  
 Call (925) 825-1659

**THREE TRIMMING**, hwd, work  
 concrete removal, yd. clean  
 up. Free est. 510-534-7321

**Tyrone Perry Landsc.**  
 Providing design/bldg. serv-  
 ices. All aspects of land-  
 scape. Creative designs, fair  
 prices. Call (925) 825-1659

### 562 Handyman

**EXPERT** in doors, stairs, win-  
 dows, fences & docks. Elec-  
 trical repair/Installation. Free  
 estimate. Call (925) 825-1659

**HANDYMAN SERVICES**  
 Carpentry, drywall, termite  
 work, etc. painting, plumbing,  
 etc. Dependable. Free est.  
 (925) 825-1659

**OAKLAND Hills Handyman**  
 Home Repairs, painting, car-  
 pentry, yard work. Call Rick  
 (925) 825-1659

**563 Handymen**  
 A-1 SERVICE  
 U.S. HAULING Bobcat serv-  
 ice, dirt, concrete removal, gen-  
 eral work. Free estimate.  
 (925) 825-1659

**MONTECLAIR DISTRICT**  
 \$5 loads (minimum) haul  
 anything. Also other light  
 work. Call (925) 825-1659

**DAVID'S HAULING**  
 Garages, basements, Es-  
 tates, yard work. Transport  
 service. Call (925) 825-1659

**COMPLETE Hauling**, removal  
 boxes, etc. Call (925) 825-1659

**HAULING**  
 Concrete & Roofing  
 Removal, demolition  
 Dump Truck & Excavator  
 insured. See ref. in 2000  
 510-807-2131

**AARDVARK HAULING**  
 All types, Same day serv-  
 ice. Dale 925-899-0850

**LOW RATES**  
 BUNN'S Hauling Large &  
 Small trucks, Backhauls, 24  
 hr. yd. clean-up. Free  
 (925) 825-1659

**DIRT**, concrete, debris, tree  
 serv., clean-up, fair price  
 est. Call (925) 825-1659

**ESTATES, GARAGES, Reloc-**  
 ations. Removal of unwanted  
 furniture, etc. Prompt  
 courteous serv., since 1979.  
 (925) 825-1659

**GENERAL** clean up from  
 Berkeley to Vallejo. Will dump  
 your junk. Yd. debris etc. Call  
 Chuck Harper (925) 825-1659

**HAULING, Dirt & Concrete**  
 Yard/Conc. cleanup & haul-  
 cat. Call (925) 825-1659

**JOE CHRISTIAN HAULING**  
 Reliable, dependable, fair  
 Free est. (925) 825-1659

**MOVING/Hauling**, Furniture,  
 boxes, etc. Call (925) 825-1659

**HAULING, Dirt & Concrete**  
 Yard/Conc. cleanup & haul-  
 cat. Call (925) 825-1659

**JOE CHRISTIAN HAULING**  
 Reliable, dependable, fair  
 Free est. (925) 825-1659

**MOVING/Hauling**, Furniture,  
 boxes, etc. Call (925) 825-1659

**HAULING, Dirt & Concrete**  
 Yard/Conc. cleanup & haul-  
 cat. Call (925) 825-1659

**JOE CHRISTIAN HAULING**  
 Reliable, dependable, fair  
 Free est. (925) 825-1659

### 565 Housekeeping & Home Services

**EXPERIENCED** houseclean-  
 ing services. Excel. ref.  
 provided. Call (925) 825-1659

**GLADYS HOUSECLEANING**  
 Reasonable prices, guaran-  
 teed job. Free estimates  
 510-833-0695

**GLADYS HOUSECLEANING**  
 Reasonable prices, guaran-  
 teed job. Free estimates  
 510-833-0695

**HOUSEKEEPER**  
 W/TOOTHBRUSH  
 Dust & Mildew obliterated  
 hand done floors, linens  
 washed & changed. Detail ob-  
 sessed. Chances w/anger for  
 new clients. Excellent ref.  
 from long-term clients.  
 (925) 825-1659

**Impeccable Interiors**  
 We tailor our  
 service to your needs  
 Bonded Bay Area's Best  
 510-521-9600

**RELIABLE** housecleaning rates  
 guaranteed for 18 yrs  
 "It's all about the price"  
 (925) 825-1659

**565A Housekeeping Services**  
 HOUSE Watch Service  
 House, Pets, Plants. Since  
 1982. Bonded. Lic. #073402178  
 510-522-1978 Pte. Lvs. msg

**RESPONSIBLE Adult** mngd  
 reits, pets & plants my spe-  
 cialty. Reasonable rates. Call  
 Kitty (925) 825-1659

### 566 Licensed Contractors

**S.P.S. TERMITE REPAIRS**  
 Earthquake Retro, foundation  
 insurance. Free estimate  
 Lic. #623998 510-831-1371

**566B Masonry**  
 MASON-BRICK, stone, chim-  
 neys 20 yrs. Exp. Int. Rich-  
 ard Jacobs, 925-935-8962

### 568 Music Lessons & Services

**BEGINNING** Piano, give the  
 gift of music. Introductory of-  
 fer, 4 lessons, \$50. 30 yrs  
 professional. Call (925) 825-1659

**J. KELSEY PIANO STUDIO**  
 Group & Private Instr. Concert  
 piano. Music for children &  
 adults. Classes, 510-835-7082

**GUITAR, BASS & DRUM**  
 lessons. 12 yrs. 1st free  
 prof. teaching exp. First les-  
 son free (510) 601-1579

### 569 Painting & Wallpaper

**ARTHUR'S PAINTING**  
 Superior painting,  
 thorough preparation.  
 Neat & reliable.  
 Affordable. Excellent  
 local references.  
 653-9362

**Professional Finish Finishes**  
 Wall glazing, color-wash,  
 marbling & more.  
 Craftsman stenciling  
 653-9362

### 570a - Plastering

**ARM & TROWEL**  
 interior/exterior patching &  
 removal. Scheduling in and  
 out of application. Free est.  
 (925) 825-1659

### 571 Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning

**FORBES PLUMBING**  
 Remodel  
 New Construction  
 Hydronic Heating  
 (510) 452-2844  
 Lic. #482667

**McLAREN Plumbing**  
 Repairs & new installation  
 Licenses (510) 387-8708

**PLUMBING** repair, water,  
 gas, drain lines, water heat-  
 ers, showers, gey. d. d. d.  
 Tony toll free  
 1-888-978-1322

### 572 Roofing & Gutters

**COLLINS ROOFING**  
 Lic. 695711. Fam. owned &  
 operated. Qual. work. Res-  
 pect-Free est. 510-482-2227

**A Sunset Rain Gutters**  
 18 yrs. exp. Raingutter,  
 roof cleaning, Repairs & n-  
 stall. Free est. 510-549-4849

**ABANDON**, ugly, leaking  
 roof. Clean, fast work. est.  
 #488881 925-972-5000

### 573 Tree Services

**DIAMOND TREE**  
 Why Not Call  
 The Best  
 510-841-1300  
 License #515195

**COASTAL TREE**  
 Removals  
 Topping, Trimming  
 Free Estimates  
 HANS, 510-524-1007

**A Careful Tree Service**  
 Certified Arborist #429  
 Trimming, removals, free es-  
 timates. references  
 510-339-1488  
 Jerry 1-800-674-0607

### 574 Tree Services

**C & B Tree Service**  
 • Removal  
 • Trimming  
 • Topping  
 • Hauling  
 • Firewood  
 530-2243  
 BRAD  
 Free Estimates  
 Insured  
 24 Hrs.

### 575 Upholstery

**UPHOLSTERY**  
 Furniture • Cushions  
 25 Yrs. Great fabric selec-  
 tions. Pick-up/del. Free est.  
 (925) 825-1659

**ANDREAS** Nozynski. Win-  
 dows, curtains, skylights.  
 510-655-0724

### Antioch

**FRIDAY ONLY 9-7**  
 Furniture, 2 bikes, clothing,  
 glassware & misc.  
 3605 Freedom Way  
 (Off Contra Loma)

**MOVING SALE**  
 Sat. 9-3  
 Furniture, appliances, much  
 more 82 EAST LAKE DR.  
 Cash Only  
 No early birds please

**Bay Point**  
**FIRST TIME SALE**  
 SAT. & SUN. 9-5  
 Furniture & smaller items.  
 4393 Tradewinds Ct.  
 (off Hwy. 4 & Willow Pass Rd.,  
 in Concord) (925) 261-1967

### Bay Point

**MOVING** EVERYTHING  
 MUST GO! A little bit of every-  
 thing! lots of baby/dollie stuff  
 (stroller, car seat, etc.) &  
 791 STEFFA ST.  
 (CROSS ST. DRAFTWOOD)

**Brentwood**  
**MOVING SALE**  
 Moving after 30 years  
 Decorative items, furniture,  
 exercise equip., clothing,  
 etc. Sat. Sun. 9-5  
 2160 Walnut Blvd.  
 After Payne, 2 mi. So. of town

**Concord**  
**MOVING SALE**  
 Thurs. to Sunday  
 2047 Dales Dr.  
 All must go: Furniture, lamps,  
 bed, accessories. (925) 216-4064

### Concord

**FURNITURE SALE**: Dining pa-  
 rade, 12' x 12' table, side  
 board, all \$250. Cream sofa  
 & loveseat, \$150. Dressing  
 table, \$100. Bed, \$100. &  
 more. Call Joey (925)  
 882-7769 even THUR-SUN.

**HUGE HUGO SALE**  
 Fri. 12-4 & Sat. 7-4  
 2931 Prospect St.  
 Antiques, refrigerators, items  
 of treasures, new items on Sat.  
 furniture, tons of misc.

**MOVING SALE**, Fri. & Sat. 9  
 AM-3 PM. 1976 Bonifacio St.  
 Apt. 45. Sofa & loveseat, item  
 table, microwave oven, car  
 seat, etc. Call (925) 825-1659

**MOVING SALE**  
 Now Fri. Sunday 8-4  
 Loma, trailers, motorcycles &  
 parts, furn., tools, toys, etc.  
 Must go! 1884 Caribita Dr.  
 (925) 869-1907

### Concord

**MOVING SALE!**  
 SAT. 9-4 & SUN. 12-4  
 1107 Glenwillow Ln.

**SAT. ONLY 9-2**  
 4748 Laura Dr.  
 Off Bally Rd. Some-  
 thing for everyone.

**SAT. & SUN. 8-5**  
 1487 Fox Hollow Ct.  
 Snowboard, stereo, bedroom  
 furn., exercise equip., desks,  
 tables, basketball hoop, bed-  
 frame, baby clothes & more.

### El Sobrante

**GARAGE SALE** E. Table, chair,  
 desk, file cabinets, table,  
 chairs, 220 battery charger,  
 12 volt, sanding belts, tools,  
 wood, misc. much more  
 SAT. SUN. 10-3  
 4784 Appleway Way.

**Martinez**  
**SATURDAY 9-4**  
 1835 PINE STREET  
 (at Ufflin)

Collectibles, furniture, futon,  
 antique tools, washer & dryer,  
 clothing & much more.

**Oakland**  
**JACK LONDON SQUARE**  
 Antiques & collectibles mar-  
 ket. 1st floor. 1st floor. 1st floor.  
 month, 18/00, 8-4. Dealer  
 space, avail. 510-652-5728

### Pinole

**ESTATE SALE**  
 6247 ASPENWAY  
 THORNTON/GOULDIN.  
 Sat. Sun. 8-4. Oriental  
 13x20, 8' coffee, turn, Oc-  
 tagonal wrought iron Tbl, 8  
 chairs, heptagonal Tbl, 8  
 chairs, Habit, Dally.

**MOVING SALE** Sat. Jan. 8, 8  
 am. 12 noon-5 pm. 12 noon-5  
 pm. Moving home access, re-  
 fr., dishware, clothing,  
 furniture, etc. 12 noon-5 pm.  
 GOOD STUFF! GOOD  
 DEALS! 6501 Snake Rd. (at  
 Cotton), Montclair.

**SAT. & SUN. 9-4**: Estate Li-  
 quidation, 412 41st St. An-  
 tiques, high quality furniture,  
 appliances & much more

**SATURDAY 1/8/00**  
 9:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
 Baby stuff, like new, other  
 misc. items. 3692 HIGH ST.

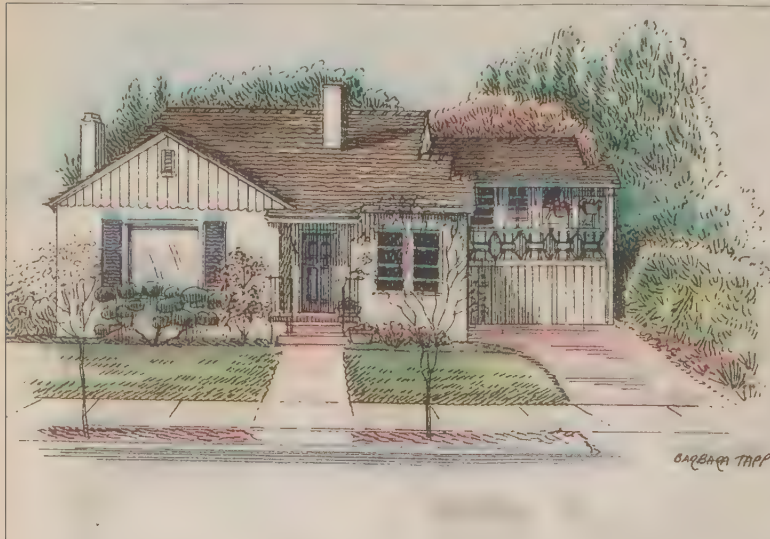
### Rossmore

**ESTATE CLEARANCE**  
 To care w/late Antique buffet  
 hutch, 220 battery charger,  
 chn.; tble; lawn chairs; Ba-  
 riana China set; sofa-bed;  
 car. cab.; twin hairloom bed-  
 spread; sterling flatware  
 u.s. hand. misc. New fa-  
 shion jewelry \$38a. Fri. Sat.  
 932-3499 939-3545

**LOOKING for a new occupation?**  
 FIND IT  
 in the  
 JOB NETWORK  
 daily



## FEATURED HOME OF THE WEEK



764 RODNEY DR., SAN LEANDRO. For more information, please call Carol Crosby, Pacific Union Residential Brokerage Company, at 415-345-3059.

## Casa bonita en San Leandro

Looking for a sunny slice of heaven with a cultural flair? Visit 764 Rodney Dr. in San Leandro.

Built in 1937, the home has three bedrooms, two and a half baths, a wood-burning fireplace, hardwood floors, a formal dining room and a sunny eat-in kitchen. The kitchen and a bath have been updated.

Now look outside: San Leandro Creek Watershed runs through this neighborhood in the Estudillo Estates region of San Leandro, giving many homes a natural habitat for a backyard. There is a wide variety of home styles, from Tudor to Mediterranean to neo-Colonial. Many homes have large lots, and prices range from the mid \$200,000s up to \$600,000.

The Estates has a rich history: Jose Joaquin Estudillo was the grantee of the Rancho San Leandro and founder of the present-day city of San Leandro. He was a bright young lad and, along with his contemporaries Juan Alvarado, Mariano Vallejo and Jose Castro,

was selected by the church and civilian authorities at Monterey to receive an education. The boys were taught to read and write in the pueblo school.

At 15, Jose Joaquin entered the colonial army service. As a cadet, he was transferred in 1816 to the San Francisco presidio. Estudillo was intelligent, ambitious, affable and literate; his army duties reportedly were pleasant and interesting.

On Feb. 6, 1823, Estudillo was married at the San Francisco presidio to Juana del Carmen Martinez, a native of Monterey presidio.

When the Mexican government secularized Mission Dolores in 1834, Estudillo was appointed a commission to disperse the neophyte Indian families and apportion the mis-

sion herds and lands to deserving pensioned soldiers.

Retired from government service both as a military officer and civil servant in 1837, Estudillo moved from the San Francisco presidio across the Bay to la contra costa, "the other coast." He started living at an adobe at the mouth of San Leandro Creek and San Leandro Bay on former Mission San Jose grazing lands.

Also in 1837, Estudillo applied to the governor for a land grant. In 1842 he was granted Rancho San Leandro, all the land between San Leandro and San Lorenzo Creeks.

The present-day Estudillo Estates is located in the area from MacArthur Boulevard to Woodland Avenue, and Juana Avenue to Dutton Avenue. The Estudillo Home-

### DOWNPAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS

Are you a low to moderate income, first-time homebuyer interested in purchasing a home in Emeryville?

CONTACT: The Emeryville Redevelopment Agency's First Time Home Buyer's Program (510) 596-4316

owners Association meets on the third Wednesday of each month.

Local business owners are working to improve the appearance of San Leandro's "MacArthur Corridor" (between Dutton and Estudillo) with a goal to create a diverse shopping and dining area similar to 4th Street, Berkeley. One hundred fifty trees are to be planted on Estudillo Avenue, and new street lighting is being installed.

Fans of the area laud it as "one of the East Bay's best-kept secrets" and "the Piedmont of San Leandro." For more information on Estudillo Estates and 764 Rodney Drive, please contact Carol Crosby, Pacific Union Residential Brokerage Company/San Francisco at 415-345-3059.

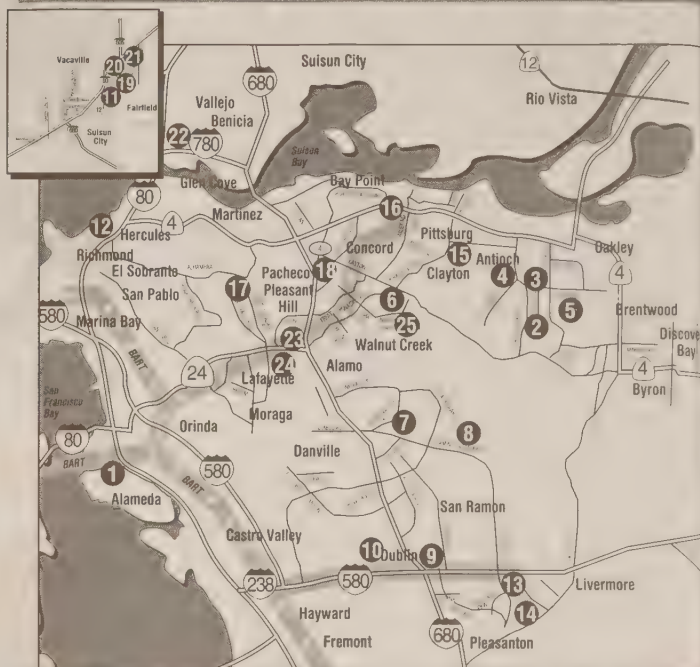
## Fishing for News?



HILLS NEWSPAPER

## NEW COMMUNITIES

AN EASY REFERENCE GUIDE TO NEW HOMES



### ALAMEDA

#### 1 The Gardens

From low \$300,000's. 3 & 4BR, 2 story, 2 car gar., 1365-1676 sq ft. Great rooms, lots avail. Alameda's newest 1/2 mile! Tube/Buena Vista/rt to models. Open 10-5, Tues. 12-5. Also available at Starward in Dublin 510-521-5347 www.schulerca.com

### ANTIOCH

#### 2 Castellana at Black Diamond Knolls

From the \$230,000's. New Release! Richland's lrg. 4 & 5 BR. 2200-2600 sq. ft. w/3 car gar., country kil., 7000+sq. ft. lots. Lone Tree to Mokelumne Dr. Open 11-5. 925-706-8655 or www.richlandinfo.com

#### 3 Lone Tree Estates-Masters Collection

From high \$200,000's. Up to \$5K allowance! Final Phase. Rec. ch./pool/spa/hot tub/more! 1 & 2 story, 2127-2696 sq. ft., 3-6BR/3 car gar. ext. amenities & opts. Lone Tree/Murwood. Davidson Homes Open 10-5 925-778-3092

#### 4 Tourelle

From low \$300,000's. New Release! Richland's 4-6BR/3-4 car gar., 1, 2 stories, 2715-3935 sq. ft., 10,000+ sq. ft. lots. Dramatic entries. Lone Tree/Golf Course Rd. 11-5 925-706-8683 or www.richlandinfo.com

### BRENTWOOD

#### 5 Diablo Vista

From the \$200,000's. Grand Opening Celebration! Designs to 2700 sq. ft., 5BR, 3BA. Commute loc. at Fairview/San Jose. Richmond American Homes. 925-516-7193. www.richmondamerican.com

### CONCORD

#### 6 Crystyl Ranch

From mid \$400,000's. New Release! Luxury, rolling hills, 4 spec. floor plans, 2400-3400 sq. ft., elegant int., custom. opts. Ygnacio Vly/rt on Pine Hollow/Rolling Woods Way. 925-687-3522/www.legacyluxuryhomes.com

### DANVILLE

#### 7 Campbell Place

From the \$800,000's. 20 craftsman-style on lg. view lots w/fin. floorplans. 680 to Sycamore Vly Rd. E/rt. onto Camino Tassajara/rt. on Glasgow Dr./rt. on Glasgow Cir./rt. on Campbell Place. Pacific Union Homes. 925-743-0238

#### 8 Shadow Creek Manor

From low \$600,000's. Selling Final Phase! Closeout Sale! 4-5 BR. Take 680 to Crow Canyon Rd. east, right on Camino Tassajara, follow signs. Open 10-5, closed Tues/Wed 925-736-7369

### DUBLIN

#### 9 Merriam at Emerald Park

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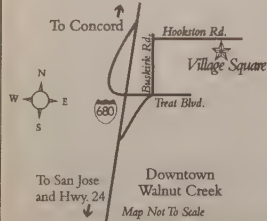
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# SPORTS

The VJ

Friday, January 7, 2000

Section C

**Arts** Julia Morgan Center for the Arts hosts East Bay talent in January [C3]

## Mersey Club brings soccer full circle

A generation of players-to-coaches comes from the desire to develop soccer here

By Mike McGreehan

In soccer, back-passes are often greeted with derision by fans. But those passes, just like the ones going forward, serve a purpose.

In many ways, then, soccer is a metaphor for life. That's at least one of the messages the Mersey Soccer Club of Berkeley tries to get across to its players.

"Sometimes you have to pass the ball back when you want to go forward — that's an important lesson in life," says Julie Nachtwey, who co-founded the club 15 years ago.

"We wanted our kids to learn how to play better soccer," she said. "We wanted them to learn the right way. Our focus was on the value of team sports but we didn't know soccer and we weren't good teachers.

"On many other teams, some of the dads just put their kids at center forward. We wanted to teach kids to play better soccer, for if they play better soccer they'll have more fun. And if they have more fun, they'll want to play more. And when they want to play more, they'll get better and better."

To accomplish this goal, the club needed a coach that knew soccer through and through. Enter Bill O'Donnell, the club's other co-founder and a coach since its inception.

O'Donnell has enjoyed much influence over the club. Even the club's name was influenced by him.

Like the Beatles, O'Donnell was originally from Liverpool, England, a north-western port city on the Mersey River.

Those who are into classic music might well remember that another Liverpool-based band, Gerry and the Pacemakers, invited us to "Ferry 'Cross the Mersey," in 1965. But Liverpool runs as deep in soccer history as it does in musical history. Two great "Merseyside" teams to this day are Liverpool and Everton, and like

"We try to coach them but not overcoach them, so they enjoy it while they're playing. I tell them that everybody is going to make mistakes, and if you let them bother you, you won't be able to play your game."

Bill O'Donnell

Raiders and 49ers fans in the Bay Area, each has strong followings among Liverpudlians.

Over the years, O'Donnell has tried to impart his knowledge and love for the game on his players.

"We try to coach them but not overcoach them, so they enjoy it while they're playing," says O'Donnell.

"Before the game starts, I tell them that everybody is going to make mistakes, and

See MERSEY, Page C2

**MERSEY COACH BILL O'DONNELL** and former player Rob Nachtwey, above, meet up at the NCAA Div. III soccer playoffs. Nachtwey and fellow Bishop O'Dowd players Andrej and Franc Slapar found out about Macalester College while on a trip to Minnesota with the Mersey Club. Below, O'Donnell with his first Mersey Soccer Club team diagrams a play.



## Carolina dreamin'

Beach Ball Classic helps St. Mary's boys hoops jell

By Scott Strain

The St. Mary's boys basketball team still has Carolina on its mind.

After a successful trip to the Beach Ball Classic in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, last week, the Panthers (9-4) returned home Tuesday night and blasted McIlmmonds 68-48 behind the ball-hawking talents of guards James Harris and Deshawn Freeman.

After dropping a 68-59 overtime decision to Monte Vista a couple weeks ago, St. Mary's defeated Sacred Heart 70-34 before heading off to South Carolina for some national competition. It proved to

"The trip helped with solidarity and that whole team concept. The kids came back focused and ready to play."

— St. Mary's coach Jose Caraballo

be an invigorating trip.

"We had a really good trip to South

Carolina," coach Jose Caraballo said, "and I think that woke the kids up to see the competition from across the country. They came back with a renewed desire to compete and I think you saw that here tonight."

"The trip helped with solidarity and that whole team concept. We grew as a team, we grew as a coaching staff. The kids came back focused and ready to play."

The toughest games the Panthers have had this season is when opposing teams have shot a lot of free throws. It happened in the opening game on Dec. 27

See CAROLINA, Page C2

## Former Cal big man McKeen dies

Memories remain of a great athlete, civic leader, and father of two sons

By Karl Fischer

Bob McKeen could have played professional basketball, but he was more interested in pursuing a master's degree.

A few years later, McKeen could have become a big name in Oakland politics. But raising his sons was more important.

McKeen never let his twin passions — sports and politics — upstage his family. That, friends and family said Sunday, is what they will remember most about him.

We had our ups and downs," said son Bryan McKeen, 38. "But he was pretty sure we could do no wrong."

McKeen, a former All-America basketball player at UC-Berkeley and an Oakland city councilman, died of cardiac arrest Friday at Summit Medical Center in Oakland. He was 66.

Most recently a Blackhawk resident, McKeen spent four years on the Oakland City Council that worked on the deal that built the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum in the early 1960s.

It was a turbulent time in Oakland. During McKeen's tenure the airport was expanded and planning for BART began. But after serving a stint as vice mayor in 1964, McKeen decided not to run for reelection.

Instead, McKeen moved with his then-wife, Estelle Knowland, and his two sons, Robert and Bryan, to Orinda and started a real estate company in Lafayette.

"I think a lot of that had to do with me," said Knowland, whose father was

### EPITAPH

**Robert McKeen**

■ **BORN:** Nov. 30, 1933, in Queens, N.Y.



■ **DIED:** Dec. 31, 1999, in Oakland

■ **SURVIVORS:** Sons, Robert McKeen of Heber, Utah and Bryan McKeen of Orinda; and four grandchildren.

Services were held on Tuesday.

former Senator William F. Knowland. "I had spent my whole life around politics, and I was kind of burned out."

McKeen spent some time on the Contra Costa County Fair board and recently worked as the senior tournament director at Blackhawk Country Club.

Rebound record  
But what many may remember most about McKeen were his days plugging the lanes as Cal's 6-foot-8 center from 1951 to 1955. A Piedmont High School graduate, McKeen was a two-time All-American at Cal and still holds Berkeley's career rebounding record at 1,019.

"He was the best pure post player in

See MCKEEN, Page C2

## Cougars win Roundball classic

By Scott Strain

OAKLAND — There is a lot of speculation this year that the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League is bereft of the great stars it had last year, and that this season will emphasize team play.

Put the Albany boys basketball team into the mix. The Cougars (9-6) won the inaugural Head-Royce Holiday Roundball Classic on Dec. 30 with a 67-32 victory over Gustine High School in the championship game. They had defeated Redwood Christian 69-45 in the opening round and host Head-Royce 45-44 on Dec. 29 in what was their biggest test.

And they did it all without their head coach — Doug Kagawa was in Hawaii watching his daughter play volleyball. But Albany won anyway with junior varsity coach Dax Kajiwara at the helm. The Cougars also won the JV tournament here. That made six wins in three days for Kajiwara. Not bad.

"I've coached these guys before," he said about coaching the varsity. "They know me and I know what they can do."

The Cougars aren't particularly big or athletic. But if a team plays into their hands — like a cold-shooting and slow Gustine team did in the title game — then

See COUGARS, Page C2

"This (win) gives us some confidence going into the league season. We know the league is going to be tough. We are confident we can play well."

— Tournament MVP Jon Ball



## Carolina

FROM PAGE C1

against Socastee (S.C.) High as the Panthers lost 65-53. "They hit 37 of 42 free-throw attempts against us," Caraballo said. "The next night they shoot 65 percent and lose." James Harris and Kellen Dixon each had 10 points to lead St. Mary's.

In the second game against Myrtle Beach, St. Mary's dumped the home team 75-53 as Ebon Glenn scored 19 points and Dixon added 17.

In the final game against East Chapel Hill High, the defending North Carolina 2A champions, St. Mary's won 71-59 as Victor Venters scored 18 points and Glenn added 13.

The Panthers had one last practice game against Fremont on Thursday, and open the their Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League at home tonight against St. Joseph-Notre Dame at 7.

To paraphrase a popular television commercial, is St. Mary's ready

for the ACCAL? There is little question in Caraballo's mind. "Are we ready for the ACCAL?" he said. "If we continue to play like this I think we're damn ready for the ACCAL."

Against a struggling McClymonds team, the Panthers played pressure defense and completely overwhelmed Warrior guards James Akino and Tyrone Henderson, forcing numerous mistakes and ball-handling errors that opened up a 49-32 lead after three quarters.

Harris scored all seven of his points in the third quarter as the Panthers outscored Mack 22-13. Freeman had four in the period and finished with 12. Dixon supplied the inside punch, scoring 22 points while hitting eight of 11 free throws.

St. Mary's led by as many as 23 points and only a 70-foot bomb by Marvin Henderson at the closing buzzer cut the final margin to 20 points. What was clear in this game was that Mack has a lot of work to do before the Oakland Athletic League season starts next week.

St. Mary's, by virtue of its week in Carolina, is in far better shape.

## Cougars

FROM PAGE C1

they will whip it hands down.

Albany won this game in the second and third quarters, outscoring the Redskins (5-6) 38-8. It really was an all-around team effort.

All-tourney guard Eric McClain scored 16 points and was 8-for-8 from the free-throw line for Albany. McClain had four points in the second quarter, six in the third. Andrew Hara also had 16 points, seven in the second period and three in the third.

Albany guard Jon Ball, the tournament MVP, had three 3-pointers and finished with nine points.

"This (tournament win) gives us some confidence going into the league season," Ball said. "I mean, we know the league is going to be tough because there are a lot of good teams. We are confident we can play well, I don't know how we are going to do when league starts. We didn't really expect to win this tournament."

"We more ready to start the (league) season than we were last

year. I don't know if we are ready for playing in that (ACCAL) league, but I think we are ready to compete a little."

### Close contest

The Cougars edged the Jayhawks 45-44 on Thursday night in the championship round when the host team missed the front end of several 1-and-1s late in the game. Kenimoto and Hara led with 17 and 11 points, respectively. Albany's big period was in the second when it outscored Head-Royce 16-8 to cut a 19-10 Jayhawks' lead to one point (27-26) at the half.

Albany blasted Redwood Christian 69-45 in the first round on Wednesday, outscoring the Eagles 26-7 in a mammoth second period. Hara finished with 18 points and Ball had 17. The Cougars outshot Redwood Christian 17-4 from the free-throw line.

Albany's next game is a non-league affair Friday night at Richmond at 7 p.m. The Cougars open the ACCAL season on Jan. 12 at Salesian High.

## McKeen

FROM PAGE C1

the game," said John Rickson, a teammate of McKeen's in 1952-53.

McKeen is also the third-leading scorer in Cal basketball history, with 1,654 points.

"We need to put an asterisk by the scoring. When Bob played, there was no three-point play and no three-point shot," said Dick Callahan, Golden State Warriors announcer and McKeen's friend. "He didn't have great speed, but he had the hands and feet of somebody who could have been a brain surgeon. And he was a great dancer."

The Minneapolis Lakers drafted McKeen in 1955, but offered the New York native only \$6,500 a year, according to Bryan McKeen.

Bob McKeen returned to Cal for a master's in business administration instead.

Though he stepped out of the limelight after his political career, his sons say his roots still ran deep in the sports community.

They said McKeen was good friends with Raiders owner Al Davis and former coach John Madden, often bringing his family to games with Davis before the Raiders moved to Los Angeles in 1984.

**Many remember McKeen in his days plugging the lanes as Cal's 6-foot-8 center from 1951 to 1955. The two-time All-American still holds Berkeley's career rebounding record at 1,019.**

He also spent plenty of time on the bleachers at Miramonte High School, rooting for Bryan, who played quarterback.

But Robert McKeen says he never pushed his sons to be athletes.

"I was never as inclined to athletics as my brother," said Robert, 39. "But he never pushed. I was all set to go to Cal and join his fraternity, but he was actually the one who told me about other colleges ... it's almost as if he knew what was best for us before we did."

Staff writer Jay Heater contributed to this story.



**THE THREE AMIGOS**, above (l-r) Andrej Slapar, Rob Nachtwey and Franc Slapar pose before their last game together. The three have been teammates for nearly eight years from the Mersey Soccer Club, through Bishop O'Dowd and into college at Macalester in Minnesota. Below: The three players and their former club coach go arm-in-arm at the NCAA playoffs

## Mersey

FROM PAGE C1

if you let them bother you, you won't be able to play your game." Some argue that sports build character. Others say, rather, that sports reveals character. A little of both is probably the actual case.

"Usually, you learn more when you lose than when you win," says O'Donnell. "I think the kids learn more, too. When you win, the kids sometimes think that they know it all. But when they lose, I think the kids really pay attention."

In soccer — or any sport, for that matter — a clear indication that players have given up hope occurs when teammates start screaming and point fingers at one another. It is usually a sure sign that the game is lost even before it is completed.

"Definitely, the game is lost (when that happens)," says O'Donnell. "It means that the players aren't really together as a team. That (type of behavior) is a weakness as a team."

### Club to college

The Mersey Soccer Club offers both house leagues and the more competitive "traveling" teams. As with many youth soccer programs, many former players have gone on to star in college. Three of them, in fact, were seniors during the fall season for the NCAA Division III Macalester College Scots of St. Paul, Minn.

Twins Andrej and Franc Slapar of Oakland played at goalie and forward, respectively. Rob Nachtwey played defender. In addition to playing for the Mersey Soccer Club, all three played at Bishop O'Dowd High School.

"Soccer has definitely helped me," said Rob Nachtwey, son of co-founder Julie and a player since he was 6 years old. "Things like being part of a team and handling winning and losing."

The collegiate careers of Rob Nachtwey and the Slapar brothers ended with Macalester's loss to Wheaton in the NCAA Division III playoffs. But during the four years that the Mersey/O'Dowd threesome played for the team, the Scots won much more often than they lost. Macalester has qualified for the NCAA playoffs in each of the past four seasons. The Scots have also been Minnesota Intercollegiate Conference champions the past three.

O'Donnell left on a trip back to England, but not before traveling to Chicago to see his former players and their teammates in their final match. O'Donnell even gave them a pep talk.

"I just told them to stay focused on what they were supposed to do and to not let anything else distract them," said O'Donnell.

Soccer has been most beneficial to Rob Nachtwey, who has one more semester to go before graduating with double majors in psychology and computer science. Nachtwey has accomplished this despite a learning disorder that affects his reading comprehension and ability to organize ideas.

"At this point I feel like an adult (he recently turned 22) as far as being focused on what you need to improve on," says Rob Nachtwey. "In soccer, there's always something you can work on. It's a model for the rest of your life."

Rob Nachtwey first took an interest in soccer when he saw some kids playing the game at Chabot Elementary School in Oakland. As a youngster, Nachtwey also played such "traditional" games as baseball, basketball and football. But soccer had a special allure.

"When I first started seeing people playing, I just wanted to play, too," he said.

The Slapar brothers have played soccer since they were eight and they even traveled to Europe to play on their Bay Oaks team. They left the team under odd circumstances with Franc being voted off the squad in a secret ballot.

"They didn't tell us for three months and then they said Franc was off the team," said Andrej Slapar. "All the clubs and select teams were full by then. We had no place to go. We knew Rob Nachtwey and he invited us on the team."

That was a bit of a step down for the Slapars, who went from a select team to a Class 3 team, but it was a move that would help them realize that soccer is more than just technical drills and winning.

"It showed us how to have fun," said Andrej Slapar, who is going into financial investment banking after graduation in the spring. "(On Bay Oaks) we learned a lot of technical stuff, but Bill said you should be having fun. If you don't play professionally you should have fun."

O'Donnell used his knowledge and his humor to coral his players and to show them a good time.

"All the coaches I've had, especially the English, have showed how much they love the sport," said Andrej Slapar. "Every coach wants to win. All the English have quick wits. They'll make fun of you to put you in your place or just to have fun."



### Continue the tradition

O'Donnell's joy for the game and his approach at Mersey has been passed on to future generations by his players. Having learned as much as he can about soccer, Rob Nachtwey is now ready to impart some of his knowledge and experience on younger players.

"I plan to move back to the Bay Area," he said. "I hope to get a job with a computer company, maybe coach my old club with Bill and maybe find an adult league where I can play. I would really like to give back to the sport. I would also like to continue playing — it's been such a

big part of my life."

With such a cycle of student-coming teachers, soccer can forward in this country.

Peter Mentor contributed to this story.

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Sportswriting

**The Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame is accepting entries for the Art Rosenbaum Sportswriting Scholarship.**

Juniors and seniors in Bay Area high schools can submit their sports-oriented articles that appeared in their school papers during the 1999-2000 sports seasons.

High schools can submit up to two entries each, with a limit of one article per student.

A panel of professional journalists will serve as judges. First place is \$2,000. Awards will be presented at the end of the spring semester.

The annual awards were established in 1992 by Lou Spadia, president of the Hall of Fame, to honor columnist Art Rosenbaum. He was a sportswriter for the San Francisco Chronicle for about 60 years.

Entries should be sent by April 15 to The Rosenbaum Scholarships, BASHOF, 465 California St., San Francisco 94104. For more information, call 1-415-352-8827.

### Youth basketball

**The Nike 3 For All skills competition for girls 17-under will take place at various Northern California locations through January.**

The competition consists of the speed dribble, super shot and free

throw events. For details about area competitions, call 1-888-3-FOR-ALL.

**Sports4Kids and the Oakland YWCA will host the Nike 3 For All starting at 10 a.m. at the downtown YWCA (1515 Webster St.) on Saturday, Jan. 15.**

On Tuesday, Jan. 18, the Sports4Kids and Title 9 Sports Winter fourth- and fifth-grade girls basketball league moves into its fourth season. The league runs 10 weeks until March 22.

For details, call Sarah Meyer at 893-4180.

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# Arts

## Julia Morgan January calendar packed

Berkeley theater hosts festival of mostly East Bay talent for 30 straight days

By Georgia Rowe

New Year's Eve is over. But in Berkeley, the entertainment is just beginning. The Julia Morgan Center for the Arts is starting the new year with a monthlong festival featuring a full calendar of music, dance and theater programs by a wide variety of performers.

"Classical Bash" kicked off Saturday, Jan. 1, with the Dunsmuir Scottish Dancers and ends Jan. 30 with an afternoon of musical theater and an appearance by performance artist Abbie Conant.

In between, there is a program for every interest, including classical mu-

### EVENT PREVIEW

- **WHAT:** "Classical Bash" series
- **WHERE:** Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley
- **WHEN:** Through Jan. 30
- **HOW MUCH:** \$15-\$25; \$10 students and seniors
- **CALL:** 510-883-7023

sic, choral singing, string quartets and solo pianists; West African, Eastern European, Celtic and flamenco dance ensembles; jazz bands, classical guitarists and Baroque harpists. There are 30 concerts in all, with a performance each day this month but the last.

Highlights include performances by pianists Gwendolyn Mok (Jan. 21), Antony Peebles (Jan. 18), Sarah Cahill (Jan. 24), and Spanish piano duo Eduardo Ponce and Heidi Hase (Jan. 8). The Young Musicians Program, which provides music instruction to low-income Bay Area youth, will present a program Jan. 15. Vox Populi, a Berkeley-based a cappella chorus, will sing music of the Italian Renaissance on Jan. 25. The San Francisco Sinfonietta will play four Haydn symphonies Jan. 29.

It's the most ambitious festival ever offered at the historic Berkeley theater, according to Julia Morgan manager George Oram, a self-described "Renaissance man" who took over as the center's director a little more than a year ago.

The idea was to assemble an impressive array of mostly local artists in a single performance venue — an easy task, says Oram, given the huge pool of talent in Berkeley.

"It seemed to me that Berkeley is just full of high-quality people," Oram said. "They perform all over



THE YOUNG MUSICIANS PROGRAM, which provides music instruction to low-income Bay Area youth, has a Jan. 15 program.

the world, but not here. Or they've retired here and teach here, but they don't want to travel to perform. I figured if we beat the bulrushes, we'd get terrific talent, and that's what happened."

He planned the festival for January, when the crush of holiday concerts is over and there isn't as much competition for audiences.

"January is normally a dead month for theaters," says Oram. "But we hope that will work in our favor. You have to program against the grain and hope something good happens."

Oram, a Berkeley resident and "lifelong music lover," used a similar approach in June with the American Broadway Music Festival at the Julia Morgan. "Everyone said it was too hard to sell theater in June," he says. "But they all came. We had all sorts of local artists performing, and we got big crowds."

## HOT SHEET!

■ The San Francisco Chamber Orchestra, which features many East Bay residents, will perform at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 16, at the Martin Meyer Sanctuary of Temple Emanu-El in San Francisco. Call 510-524-3682.

■ Strictly Roots, a reggae band, will perform at 9:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 7, at the Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Cost \$11. Call 510-525-5054.

### EVENTS



**HAUSMUSIK PRESENTS "A Handel Banquet of Musical Delights with Secular Songs, Cantatas and Trio Sonatas,"** featuring soprano Jennifer Ellis (pictured) at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 8, at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington St., Albany. Call 510-559-4670.

**American Bach Soloists** — Jeffrey Thomas conducting, Jan. 15, 8 p.m. A program of vocal chamber music by Bach and Buxtehude.

**\$20 to \$37.** First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. Call 415-392-4400 or 415-621-7900.

**Cal Performances** — Mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli, Jan. 9, 3 p.m. Along with music ensemble Il Giardino Armonico in an all-Vivaldi program.

**Tickets:** \$35-\$85. Zellerbach Hall, University of California, Bancroft and Telegraph Avenues, Berkeley. Call 510-642-9988.

**Four Seasons Concert** — Pianist Leon Bates, Jan. 15, 7:30 p.m. Guest artists: West Village Quartet. A program of works by Mozart, Liszt, and Schumann.

**Tickets:** \$25-\$35. Scottish Rite Auditorium, 1547 Lakeside Dr., Oakland. Call 510-451-0775.

**St. Joseph the Worker Church** — "Dia de los Reyes," Jan. 15, 8 p.m. A performance by Coro Hispano de San Francisco and Conjunto Nuevo Mundo of choral music heralding the arrival of the Three Kings.

**Tickets:** \$15 general, \$12 students and seniors. 1640 Addison St., Berkeley. Call 415-431-4234.

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church** — Organist Roger Sherman, Jan. 9, 6 p.m. An all-Bach program.

**Donation.** 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Call 510-845-0888.

**REI Berkeley** — through Jan. 27. A series of lectures on hikes and outdoors equipment.

"Avalanche Safety Course," Jan. 11, 6 p.m. A slide lecture and video presentation by avalanche instructor Dick Penniman on the fundamentals including avalanche phenomena, meteorology, snowpack formation, route selection, stability evaluation and rescue technique. \$20.

"Frontiers of Central Asia: The Southern Silk Road," Jan. 13, 7 p.m. A slide presentation by professional guide Bob Jones on a 3,500-mile journey by four-wheel-drive vehicle from Lanzhou to Kashgar across the remote Tibetan highlands of China's Gansu, Qinghai and Xinjiang Provinces.

"Cross Country Skiing: Get Ready to Go," Jan. 19, 7 p.m. Rich Davies reviews how to select equipment and clothing for all aspects of nordic skiing including diagonal striding on track, skating, backcountry touring and telemarking.

"Climbing the Seven Summits," Jan. 20, 7 p.m. A slide presentation by climber Bob Hoffman, featuring the majestic summits of Aconcagua, Denali, Elbrus, Everest, Kilimanjaro, Kosciusko and Vinson.



URS STEINER directs the San Francisco Sinfonietta's presentation of four Haydn symphonies Jan. 29.

## Cuba's gift to U.S.? Jazz great O'Farrill

By Andrew Gilbert

The United States, it seems, is always rediscovering Cuba.

In the past few years, the musicians of Buena Vista Social Club have reintroduced pre-revolution Cuban music to generations of Americans unfamiliar with the island's culture because of the United States' almost 40-year embargo. But the great Cuban rediscovery of the '90s was Chico O'Farrill.

The pioneering 78-year-old arranger, composer and bandleader is part of the same generation as Ibrahim Ferrer and Ruben Gonzalez, but when the Buena Vista Social Club members were at the height of their careers in Havana, O'Farrill was helping create a new musical sound in New York.

In the late '40s, along with Dizzy Gillespie, Cuban conguero Chano Pozo and trumpeter Mario Bauza, O'Farrill invented an orchestral language that married modern jazz harmonies with Afro-Cuban rhythms.

### PREVIEW

- **WHO:** Chico O'Farrill and the Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra
- **WHERE:** Yoshi's at Jack London Square, 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland
- **WHEN:** 8 and 10 p.m. through Saturday, Jan. 8; 2 and 8 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 9
- **HOW MUCH:** \$20-\$24
- **CALL:** 510-238-9200

Eagerly sought by the top bandleaders, he wrote charts for Gillespie, Benny Goodman, Stan Kenton and Machito. But with the rise of rock 'n' roll in the mid-'50s and a dearth of work, O'Farrill spent almost a decade leading a band in Mexico City.

Despite his extensive work with Count Basie, he fell into obscurity when he returned to the U.S. in the mid-'60s, and virtually disappeared from the jazz scene for a quarter century.

### Waiting awhile

After almost three decades without an album under his own name, O'Farrill released "Pure Emotion" on Milestone in 1995, a triumphant session with his Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra marked by sharp dynamic shifts, restless textural juxtapositions and his sly sense of humor.

The album returned O'Farrill to the spotlight, and for the past two years he and his son, pianist Arturo O'Farrill, have led their orchestra every Sunday at New York City's Birdland, turning the group into one of the most exciting ensembles in jazz. The father and son team bring the Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra into Yoshi's on Tuesday for a six-night run.

Raised in a well-heeled Irish-Cuban family, O'Farrill was first exposed to jazz while attending military school in Florida. His parents hoped the academy would instill some discipline in the rowdy youth. It did, but not in the way they had expected.



HIGHWAY Q.C.s, (l-r) Joe Britt, Stanley Richardson, Spencer B. Taylor III and Spencer Taylor Jr., will perform at 8 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 17, at Freight & Salvage Coffee House in Berkeley. Call 510-548-1761.

### A changed scene

The sessions marked the end of O'Farrill's brief period of fame, and within a couple of years he had moved to Mexico City, where he worked as a bandleader. By the time he returned to New York in 1965, the jazz scene had changed considerably. He wrote arrangements for Basie, Gillespie and Gato Barbieri, but by the early '70s he was supporting himself writing jingles and commercial music. His second chance came out of a recording session with Jerry Gonzalez and the Fort Apache band, when producer Todd Barkan asked Arturo O'Farrill about his father.

"He was saying, 'What's going on with your pop?'" the pianist said. "I said, 'Listen, man, we can't get arrested. We need to get a record deal.' He took the idea to Ralph Kaffel at Fantasy Records (Milestone's parent label), and a year later we were in the studio."

See O'FARRILL, Page C4

See EVENTS, Page C4

BILL MANN

Media Notes

### Distless? Never!

One annual list down, one to go. Last week I gave you my top local acts in radio and TV. This week I attempt to sort things out critically in national broadcast and cable TV. I'd appreciate your feedback. In 1999, the biggest "innovation" and network phenomenon was a cheap-to-produce game show (ABC's "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire"), again demonstrating there are more Xerox machines in Hollywood than word processors. Two of the "Millionaire" clones, by the way, are produced by Dick Clark. Here's how I rank the shows:

### Top 10 broadcast/cable series

(not necessarily ranked in order)—  
■ **"The Sopranos"** (HBO); **"NYPD Blue"** (ABC); **"The Simpsons"** (Fox); **"Ben Stein's Money"** (Comedy Central); **"Whose Line Is It Anyway?"** (ABC); **"Frasier"** (NBC); **"Mad-TV"** (ABC); **"King of the Hill"** (Fox); **"60 Minutes"** (CBS); **"Action!"** (Fox).

**Honorable Mention:** **"Nova"** (PBS); **"Newshour"** (PBS); **"Futurama"** (Fox); **"Once and Again"** (ABC); **"Bill Nye the Science Guy"** (PBS); **"The Practice"** (ABC); **"The West Wing"** (ABC); **"SportsNight"** (ABC).

**Critical Call:** "Action!" was the best daring and critically acclaimed show of the year; the Hollywood elite's lack of audience during its short run, we hope, will not dissuade Fox from future acts of daring. HBO's well-written, well-acted family drama, "The Sopranos," is better each season; it starts up again later this month, and it's gotten even better (I've seen the first five new episodes ... The worthwhile but often-disappointing "Frasier" has had an off year; that it's on this list is testament to TV's scarcity of good programming ... We haven't seen new "NYPD" episodes this season, but TV's best drama survives the runnerup, ABC's "The Practice" by a wide margin. "Blue" is up again Tuesday ... "The Simpsons" is having a strong season; easily the cleverest thing on TV. Deadpan conservative/game host Jon's funny show is well-written. The funny category titles alone are worth watching for) and it's fun to watch a smart guy do his thing ... Another cheap-to-produce show, ABC's days-engaging improv showcase "Whose Line?" with Drew Carey, has produced a star in talented comedian Wayne Brady. There are disturbing rumors going around that one of the performers may get some advance clues as to their areas of improv; hope they're not true ... "Mad" has shown no fall-off this year, and its ensemble cast is clearly TV's since "SCTV" in the early 1980's. Michael McDonald's recurring mandolinist Stuart is only one of the talented couple's strong ongoing characters.

See Swann, The Vancomae Lady, the UPS Guy, "Kenny Rogers," etc.

Would it have killed "60 Minutes" during its profile of Jerry Brown last Sunday to toss in at least a mention of Oakland's economic resurgence?

**First series**

■ **"WWF"** (USA, UPN); **"Jerry Springer"** (syndicated); **"Sally Jessy Raphael"** (syndicated); **"Ricki Lake"** (syndicated); 90 percent of the UPN lineup; 95 percent of the WB lineup; **"Beavis and Butt-Head"** (Fox); **"Charlie Rose"** (PBS); **"Providence"** (NBC); **"Martha Stewart Living"** (syndicated).

**Honorable mention:** **"The Real World"** (MTV); **"Droneologist Louis Keyser's monologues on PBS"** "Wall Street Week"; anything involving Pamela Anderson Lee; "paid programs," aka infomercials; HBO's Edgar and overrated "Sex and the City"; Barbara Walters' dreary daytime perennial stinkeroo "Saturday Night Live" (NBC).

**Critical Call:** WWF owner/producer Vince McMahon called bottom-line decision to pull its ads off the graceful exploit-o-rama "an attack the First Amendment." Maybe it is that contemptible simulated gang rape of your daughter that forced Vince's decision, Vince.

Or that abduction storyline where your daughter was mauled and then stuffed in a trunk. McMahon considers gang rapes and abductions "entertainment." Deal.

But hey, thanks for speaking out to end the Constitution, Vince; we'll sleep a lot better ... Springer, Sally Jessy and Ricki, with their odious displays of dysfunctionals, should be stuffed in a trunk with McMahon in punishment for their sully of the waves ... Isn't "Martha Stewart Living" an oxymoron?

"McBeal" was never that good to begin with, but this season the often-

See MANN, Page C4





TRISHA BROWN Company perform "Set and Reset" March 10-11 at UC-Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. Call Cal Performances at 510-642-9988.

## Steve Turre comes back home

Oakland native and trombonist collects his Shells just in time for New Year's Eve

By Yoshi Kato

Steve Turre is home for the holidays, and he's doing it in style.

The Oakland native led an all-star ensemble last week at Yoshi's. He continued through Sunday, Jan. 2, and had performed a nationwide New Year's Eve broadcast Friday, Dec. 31, on NPR.

"I'm excited to come home for the millennium, and I get to see my family and play for the hometown folks," the 51-year-old trombonist and shell player, in a phone interview from his home in New Jersey, said before playing at Yoshi's.

Having played with everyone from Art Blakey, Woody Shaw and Chico Hamilton to Santana, Ray Charles and Van Morrison, Turre brings both musical breadth and depth to the bandstand.

His Sanctified Shells group features four fellow trombonists (William Cepeda, Stafford Hunter, Aaron Johnson and JP Torres) who, like Turre, double up on conch shell.

### Aztec ancestors

While playing a show with Shaw in Mexico City, he met up with an uncle who informed him that his Aztec ancestors had played the shells. Inspired by that knowledge, he's become the leading shell player on the scene today.

"But it's nothing new," he notes.

"People have been playing shells since before written history. It's the most ancient of horns. As far as playing it in today's music, I guess I've (brought) it to light as a solo instrument and innovated the way I'm playing."

Over the course of six albums, Turre has offered a highly personalized sound incorporating jazz, blues, Latin American and African musical traditions through assembling groups with unique instrumentations. On some albums, he might feature violin and cello.

Others might feature a full string quartet, a brass ensemble or various vocalists. And as for percussion, he might use conga, vibraphone or djembe.

"Different groups have different energies, and I like that. It keeps it fresh," he says. "I don't want to do the same thing all the time. You get stuck in a rut."

### Together again

The large group he put together for New Year's week at Yoshi's reflected the instrumentation and even some of the lineup of his 1995 "Rhythm Within" album, he says. "We have (trumpeter) Jon Faddis and (tenor saxophonist) Pharoah Sanders, who are both also East Bay guys."

"Unfortunately, Herbie (Hancock) couldn't make it," he adds. "But

Stephen Scott made it, and he played on the (1997) 'Steve Turre' CD." Bassist Andy Gonzalez and drummer Horacio "El Negro" Hernandez round out the rhythm section, with Giovanni Hidalgo on congas, Manny Oquendo on timbales and Kinamti Dinizulu on percussion.

Though the group certainly qualifies as a large group, it's not a "big band" in the traditional sense, he's quick to point out. "It was never inspired by or formulated from a big band."

Originally in 1981, when the first time I put together Sanctified Shells, I had six brass players who also doubled on shells and a hand drummer," he says.

In subsequent years, he added instruments. First it was a bass that was put into the mix. Then it was a traditional drum kit, followed by additional percussion.

Saxophone and piano came next, with string players contributing to various studio recordings.

For Turre, the Yoshi's appearance he was able to play with special players at a special venue during a unique period in history. "I think Yoshi's is the premiere jazz club in the world at this point in time," he says.

"And I'm not exaggerating, because I've traveled all over the world and played in all the joints."

**Best Jury Verdict:** The one that found Jenny Jones and her slimy producers liable for damages in the death of a gay guest.

**Greed-Plus:** NBC ruined the wonderful "Alice in Wonderland" with a surfeit of commercials. It was no tea party.

**Most Embarrassing Game-Show Contestants and Questions:** ABC's "Millionaire." One guy who won 250 K had to ask the audience what denomination of coin a pancake was named after. ("Uh, dime pancakes, Regis?")

**Worst Network Anchors:** Soledad O'Brien, Maria Shriver (NBC).

**Best Made-for-TV Movie:** "The Unicorn Killer" (NBC).

**Worst Made-for-TV Movie:** "Atomic Train" (NBC). Close second: Most of the rest.

**Most Indispensable Cable Net:** CNBC, daytime.

**Princess Di Wretched Excess Award:** To ABC, NBC, and CBS, for their ludicrous, overwrought wall-to-wall coverage the day of JFK Jr.'s plane crash.

**Inside-the-Beltway Myopia Award:** To PBS' usually worthy "New-

shour," for beginning in-depth coverage of the Presidential race 16 months before the fact. Puh-lease.

**The Riverdance Award for this year's PBS Excess:** "Antiques Roadshow."

**Worst Trend Not About to End:** More shows and stories about pro wrestling.

**Best Idea:** Watching less TV (especially during dinner) and doing more reading at night.

**Missing in Action/Please Don't Send a Search Party:** Talent-impaired PBS piano noodler John Tesh.

Finally, Our Quote of the Week, Slipping-Standards Division (This from NPR's "Car Talk"): Texas A&M's basketball coach was shown the report card of one of his players. It had three F's and a D. The coach put his arm around the nonstudent/athlete and said, "Son, it looks to me like you've been concentrating too much on one subject."

Questions? Comments? E-mail Bill at [Newsman@aol.com](mailto:Newsman@aol.com)

## Mann

FROM PAGE C4

vulgar show has reached a low in pandering ... UPN dimbulb series like "Shasta McNasty" are almost — almost — as reprehensible as its "hot" new series, "WWF Smackdown" ... The Mad-TV troupe started off the year with a wonderfully written catch-all parody of WB's dimbulb teen psychodramas, called "Pretty White Kids With Problems." WB's shows are mostly superficial junk ... Look up "sycophant" in the dictionary and you'll probably find a picture of the earnest-looking Charlie Rose. It's a shame such good guests are wasted on such a fawning interviewer. I'd say Rose is the most ludicrously overrated interviewer on TV, but Walters already owns the perpetual trophy.

**Best Network Newscast:** "ABC World News Tonight," mostly because Peter Jennings is apparently the only network anchor who still believes in international news is important.

**Best Documentary Series:** (tie) Ric Burns' "New York" and "David Attenborough's The Life of Birds" (PBS).

## Morgan

FROM PAGE C3

**Jan. 9 (2 p.m.):** Brisas de Espana, Flamenco dance company featuring Carolina Lugo; Eduardo Ponce, piano

**Jan. 10:** Ann Teresa Kang, pianist; music of Chopin and Brahms

**Jan. 11:** Chamber music, piano and strings

**Jan. 12:** West African Dance Ensemble

**Jan. 13:** Chamber Arts House Soloists featuring Jerry Kuderna, piano

**Jan. 14 (8 p.m.):** Bevan Manson, pianist, with the Gabrielli Brass Band

**Jan. 15 (8 p.m.):** Young Musicians Program Brass Quartet

**Jan. 16 (4 p.m.):** Monica Scott, violoncello; music of Bach

**Jan. 17:** Allison Lovejoy, pianist; music of Rachmaninoff, Haydn, Bizet

**Jan. 18:** Antony Peebles, pianist; music of Beethoven, Joplin, Loewe

**Jan. 19:** Berkeley High presents jazz, chamber ensemble and dance

**Jan. 20:** Niall Fordyce, classical guitar

**Jan. 21 (8 p.m.):** Masters of Music Gala Concert featuring Gwendolyn Mok

**Jan. 22:** (8 p.m.) Del Sol String Quartet; music of Brahms and Piazzolla

**Jan. 23 (2 p.m.):** Cheryl Ann Fulton, harpist; medieval and Baroque music

**Jan. 24:** Sarah Cahill, pianist

**Jan. 25:** Madrigal Vox Populi Chamber Chorus

**Jan. 26:** Fernando Benadon Jazz Trio; UC-Berkeley Classical Music Group

**Jan. 27:** Lawrence Perelman, pianist; music of Bach, Beethoven and Brahms

**Jan. 28 (8 p.m.):** Dance Danu-

bis, with Balkan instruments

**Jan. 29 (8 p.m.):** San Francisco Sinfonietta; Urs Steiner, conductor

**Jan. 30 (2 p.m.):** Music Theater: "Street Scenes for the Last Soprano" and "Music for the End of Time"; performance artist Abbie Conant

## O'Farrill

FROM PAGE C3

O'Farrill's latest Milestone album, last year's "Heart of a Legend," is the perfect capstone to his career, not because he's going to retire anytime soon, but because it captures so many facets of his musical personality.

Featuring the finely honed Afro-Cuban Jazz Orchestra and a host of all-star guests, the album is as clever, playful and bursting with ideas as the man himself.

## Events

FROM PAGE C3

"Hiking the California Desert Trail: Through Anza Borrego, Joshua Tree, the Mojave and More," Jan. 27, 7 p.m. A slide presentation by Steve Tabor of Desert Survivors, featuring highlights from his reconnaissance trips along 500 miles of the trail.

Free unless otherwise noted. 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-527-4140.

**San Francisco Indie Fest** — through Jan. 14. The San Francisco Independent Film Festival is back for a second year with an updated roster of 19 cutting-edge new independent feature films.

**FINE ARTS CINEMA** — Jan. 12, 5:15 p.m.: "Dumbarton Bridge"; Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m.: "American Passport"; Jan. 12, 9:35 p.m.: "Lucinda's Spell"; Jan. 13, 5:15 p.m.: "Last Best Sunday"; Jan. 13, 7:35 p.m.: "30, Still Single: Contemplating Suicide."

**"Stars On Ice"** — Jan. 7, 8 p.m. A performance by some of the world's best figure skaters including Kristi Yamaguchi, Tara Lipinski, Scott Hamilton, Kurt Browning, Ekaterina Gordeeva, Lu Chen, Steven Cousins and others.

Tickets: \$35-\$45. Oakland Arena, 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland. Call 510-639-7700 or 510-762-BASS.

**Winter Wedding Faire** — Jan. 9, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Featuring a fashion show by Alencon Couture Bridal and over 70 exhibits of wedding professionals; sample wedding cakes, espresso, and hors d'oeuvres and meet representatives of the Claremont Spa to learn about wedding day hair and makeup ideas.

Tickets: \$8. Claremont Resort and Spa, 41 Tunnel Road, Berkeley. Call 510-339-3370 or 510-549-8591.

**The Golden Gate Geographic Society 2000 Travel Film** — "Switzerland" A look at this alpine republic by road, boat, train and cable car while traveling from valleys to mountain tops and from lowland vineyards to highland cheese-making regions. Produced and presented in person by Clint Denn.

Jan. 15, 2 p.m.: Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. Call 800-247-GGGS.

**West Coast Live** — Join the studio audience as Sedge Thompson hosts musical guests, authors and others for his live radio broadcast.

Jan. 15, 10 a.m.: Jazz singer Paula West and her band, author Gail Tsukiyama, pianist Gwendolyn Mok.

and more. At the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Tickets: \$12. Call 415-664-9500.

**Bucci's Restaurant** — "Times Ten," Jan. 16 through Feb. 11. An exhibit of paintings, prints and sculptures by 10 emerging Bay Area artists. Opening reception, Jan. 16, 3-5 p.m.

Tickets: Free. Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Saturday, 5:30-9:30 p.m. 6121 Hollis St., Emeryville. Call 510-547-4725.

**Creative Growth Art Center Gallery** — "The Last Picture Show," closing Jan. 14. An annual exhibit of drawings, paintings, prints, sculpture, ceramics, art furniture and rugs.

Free admission. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 355 24th St., Oakland. Call 510-836-2340.

**East Bay Municipal Utility District** — Mohsen Janatpour, through Jan. 28. An exhibit of paintings.

Free. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Oakland Administration Building, Second Floor Lobby, 375 11th St., Oakland. Call 650-574-6272.

**Christensen Heller Gallery** — Kim Bach, through Feb. 29. An exhibit of paintings.

Hugo Reichmuth, through Feb. 29. An exhibit of custom furniture. Free. Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. 5831 College Ave., Oakland. Call 510-655-5952.

**Heritage Square** — "Well Hung," Jan. 10 through Feb. 11. An exhibit of new work by a group of 10 artists. Call 510-524-0745.

"Times Ten," Jan. 16 through Feb. 11. An exhibit of paintings, prints and sculptures by 10 emerging Bay Area artists. Call 707-769-0675.

Opening reception, Jan. 16, 3-5 p.m. Free admission. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 6121 Hollis St., Emeryville.

**Hollis Street Project** — "Click!" Jan. 10-Feb. 10. An exhibit of new work by 11 Bay Area photographers. Call 510-582-8735.

"Ten Into Two Thousand," Jan. 10-Feb. 11. An exhibit of various media by 10 artists. Call 510-654-4907.

"10 Views/22 Dimensions," Jan. 16-Feb. 11. An exhibit of work by seven painters, a printmaker, and two sculptors. Call 650-949-2511.

Opening reception, Jan. 16, 3-5 p.m. Free admission. Daily 8 a.m.-6 p.m. 5900 Hollis St., Emeryville.

**Kala Institute** — Artists' Annual Exhibition, through Feb. 25. An exhibit of works by various artists. Free. Tuesday-Friday, noon-5 p.m.

Workshop Media Center Gallery, Heinz Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-843-1100.

**Laney College** — Photography Show, through Jan. 27. Art by Roger Bowman, Jr., Mark Dean Freeman, John Lodato and Lombardo. Free. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Art Gallery, 901 St., Oakland. Call 510-464-3591.

**La Pena Cultural Center** — "Weathering the Storm," through Jan. 30. An exhibit of paintings and media by TSAK. In Cafe La Pena. Free admission. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-843-2727.

**Mills College** — "The Languages of Children," through Jan. 30. An exhibit of art by children from Reggio Emilia. Carnegie Building Bender Room, 510-430-3105.

Free admission. Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Art Museum, 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. Call 510-430-2164.

**New Pieces Gallery** — "New Views," through March 5. An exhibit of quilts and various artists. Free admission. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, noon-5 p.m. 1597 Solano St., Berkeley. Call 510-527-6779.

**Royal Ground Gallery** — "New Views," through March 5. An exhibit of paintings, mixed media, photography and baskets by various artists. Free admission. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, noon-5 p.m. 1597 Solano St., Berkeley. Call 510-527-6779.

**Traywick Gallery** — "Emilia's Views," through March 5. An exhibit of paintings, mixed media, photography and baskets by various artists. Free admission. Daily 7:30 p.m. Free admission. Daily 8 p.m. 2058 Mountain Blvd., District, Oakland. Call 510-338-1202.

**Chabot Observatory** — COSMOS, through March 5. An innovative teaching and learning center focusing on astronomy and inter-relationships of all the sciences. Its observatory, planetarium, and natural park setting are all where students, teachers, and the public can imagine, understand, and shape their future through science. Tickets: \$5 general; \$4.50 for \$3.50 children age 6 to 17; free under age 6. Friday and Saturday, 4:30-8 p.m. 4917 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. 510-530-3480, ext. 36 or [www.chabot.edu](http://www.chabot.edu)

## YMCA of the East Bay Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast

Wednesday, January 12, 2000  
Oakland Marriott Hotel  
12th & Broadway  
Oakland

7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Breakfast Buffet served at 7:30 a.m.  
Program begins at 8:00 a.m. sharp



### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Robert E. Knowling, Jr.

President and CEO

Covad Communications, Santa Clara

### PARTICIPATING

Rabbi Zari Weis

Rev. Dr. Warren Lee

Islamic Center of Northern California

Buddhist Peace Fellowship

### INSPIRATIONAL MUSIC

Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir Ensemble

Gen Taiko - Japanese Drum Ensemble

Tickets \$15.00

Excess proceeds benefit YMCA After School Programs in East Oakland, West Oakland, Richmond, and Hayward

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO RESERVE TICKETS  
PLEASE CALL THE  
YMCA OF THE EAST BAY  
510-451-8039 ext. 777



We build strong kids, strong families,  
strong communities.

YMCA of the East Bay, 2330 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94612

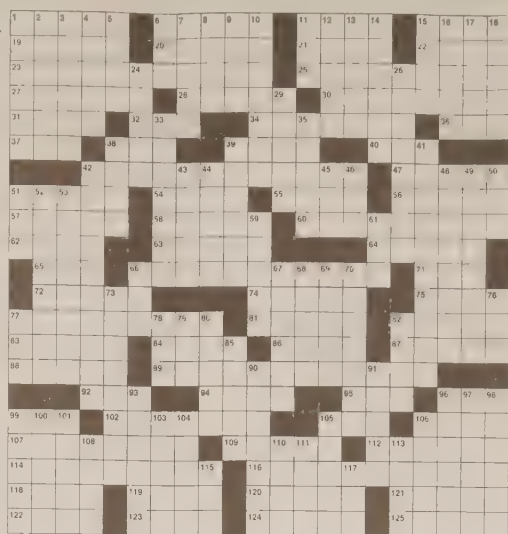


## NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE

## UNSELFISHNESS

By Rich Norris / Edited by Will Shortz

- ACROSS**
- 1 Computer command
- 6 Santa —
- 11 "— girl!"
- 15 Salon cut
- 19 Metallic prefix
- 20 Fuel deliverer
- 21 Lows
- 22 Actress
- 23 Hatcher
- 24 Affair update?
- 25 Captain Hook, in his dreams?
- 27 Italian town near Perugia
- 28 Secured, with "off"
- 30 It's often used in a pool
- 31 French wine-producing hillside
- 32 33-Down initials
- 34 Wise men
- 36 Conscripted org.
- 37 Toronto-to-Ottawa dir.
- 38 Early
- 39 Iranian money
- 40 Bro. for one
- 42 Reply to a No. 1 son, e.g.?
- 47 Ground cover
- 51 Kind of butter
- 54 Soothing application
- 55 Daughter of Cronus
- 56 Smart
- 57 Corday's victim
- 58 Long Island town near Bay Shore
- 60 Like a home, often, before it's sold
- 62 City just east of Utah Lake
- 63 Symbol of strength
- 64 Downed
- 65 Modifier: Abbr.
- 66 Musial's manager, at times?
- 71 911 respondent
- 72 Oz creator and others
- 74 1948 Pulitzer-winning poet
- 75 Individually
- 77 Like some computer printers
- 81 Unexpected pleasure
- 82 Kansas motto word
- 83 Spills
- 84 Confucius' "Book of —"
- 86 "— Need" (1985 Jack Wagner hit)
- 87 Looked out (for)
- 88 Paddy wagon?
- 92 Bang into
- 94 Word following an omission
- 95 Questioning syllables
- 96 Monthly income source: Abbr.
- 99 "Exodus" hero
- 102 Colada flavoring
- 105 Star Wars, initially
- 106 Bright students have them
- 107 Like some servants
- 109 Religious headpiece
- 112 Abate
- 114 Fiction writer's problem?
- 116 Governor's official cook?
- 118 Stuttgart title
- 119 Ireland, to the Irish
- 120 Yellowish-brown
- 121 Lucky —
- 122 "... so long — both shall live?"
- DOWN**
- 1 Do away with
- 2 "On the Road Again" singer
- 3 Sibelius' "Valse —"
- 4 Banks on the diamond
- 5 Fixes
- 6 No-frills bed
- 7 Make-up artists?
- 8 Choir part
- 9 Enlist anew
- 10 Elderberry wine additive, in a Kesselring play
- 11 Electric guitar adjunct
- 12 Reason to raise a hand
- 13 85-Down's rider
- 14 They want to know
- 15 Manche department's capital
- 16 Relieves
- 17 Locales
- 18 Hems in
- 24 First six tracks, say
- 26 Armpatch, e.g.
- 29 Browne's "cure of all diseases"
- 33 Down-in-the-mouth sort?
- 35 More artful
- 38 Sharpen
- 39 Not as proper
- 41 Breakfast cereal ad?
- 42 One hopping along the Cape Cod coast?
- 43 Haile Selassie disciple
- 44 Groundbreaking '90s sitcom
- 45 It's found in banks
- 46 Flannel feature
- 48 Essays
- 49 Powerful speakers
- 50 Barrett of Pink Floyd
- 51 Member of a Latin trio
- 52 Geometry line
- 53 Wolf or lion
- 59 Fold
- 61 — Lingus
- 66 Boom producer
- 67 Big pictures



Puzzle answers are on page C6

- 68 Digger of "The Life of Riley"
- 69 Pitcher Bob of the '60s Pirates
- 70 Led on
- 73 Hardly a close win
- 76 Wages
- 77 Mil. medal
- 78 Mythical bird
- 79 Response to a court oath
- 80 Radio tube
- 82 "My Michael" author Oz
- 85 13-Down's horse
- 90 Kind of scanner
- 91 Copper?
- 93 Fabrics that shimmer
- 96 Gather into a bundle
- 97 Browns
- 98 Sights on ski slopes
- 99 Series opener
- 100 Gets to
- 101 Old artificial leg material
- 103 Glass-polishing powder
- 104 Household spray targets
- 105 Stock holders
- 106 It has many rays
- 108 Peut — (maybe) Fr words
- 110 Woeful
- 111 First name in country
- 113 Subordinate title: Abbr.
- 115 — publica (commonwealth)
- 117 Scrap

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

missions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

## Classes

**Women's Cancer Resource Center**, 223 Shattuck Ave., announces "Archology of the Self," art workshops for women living with cancer. This free eight-week class explores different art mediums, and investigates aspects of one's self. Steve Adams, an artist and a Masters Candidate in Transformative Arts, teaches the class. Enrollment is limited, call early to reserve. For more information, call 548-9286, ex 307.

**The Vista Community College**, 2020 Milvia St., Spring 2000 enrollment for Program for Adult College Education (PACE) opens through Friday, Jan. 28. PACE is a college alternative for adults with job and family responsibilities. The program allows completion of freshman and sophomore years in 2-1/2 to three years, then transfer to a four-year college to complete their bachelor's degrees. Call 841-0809 for information about how to enroll.

**The Lehrhaus Judaica** at the Reutlinger Center, 2736 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, offers more than 100 classes on Judaism: Hebrew, Bible History, Culture, Prayer, starting in February through out the Bay Area. Call Lehrhaus Judaica at

845-6420 for a free catalog.

**The van der Zanden Studio**, 1025 Carleton, No. 9, offers sculpture classes. All levels. Call 843-9445 for additional information.

**Turning Point** at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, presents Scribble Time on Tuesdays, by appointment. Scribble Time, a class taught by Anne Levine, Ph.D., has helped people to understand themselves better and to find their focus. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

**A CopWatch** class takes place every Monday night from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 2022 Blake Street near Shattuck. Know your rights. The classes are free. Call 548-0425 for additional information.

**Berkeley Community Media (BCM)**, Channel 25, offers affordable classes in video production and editing to Berkeley residents. Free orientations designed to introduce BCM to the public are held on Thursdays, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at 2239 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. For more information call 848-2288 and ask for Patrick, John or Sage.

**The YWCA** offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the resources available to the public including a variety of workshops held Tuesdays, at

See CALENDAR, Page C6

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# Calendar

FROM PAGE C5

1:30 p.m. For additional information call 848-6370.

**Ashkenaz**, 1317 San Pablo Ave., offers many dance classes ranging from Afro-Cuban to Kalarjani Dances of India, to West Coast Swing to Lindy Hop and East Coast Swing. The Ashkenaz is a non-profit music and dance community center. Call 525-5054 for additional information.

**Life Stories/Collage** and Ceramics classes forming at St. John's Senior Center, 2727 College Ave., Tuesday mornings 9 a.m. to noon. All are welcome. Free. Sponsored by Berkeley Adult School. Teachers are Diana Bohn and Judith Carroll. Call 845-6830 for additional information.

**Contemporary Women's Issues** class is forming at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst St. Free class offered by the Berkeley Adult School, taught by Judith Carroll, MFCC. Friday mornings 10 a.m. to noon. Open to all women 55 or older. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

**Dance and Fitness** Classes open to all in flamenco, Afro-Brazilian, bellydance, salsa, swing, ballroom, tap, theatre

dance, yoga, chi gung, tai chi, aikido, pilates-based body conditioning and more at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Drop in fees: \$8-10. Information: 848-6370

**Let's Swing** and Jitterbug: 7 p.m. beginning classes, 8 p.m. intermediate; four-week dance classes beginning the first Tuesday of the month; Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley; Diana Castillo, 549-3591; \$40 for four classes.

## Children

**The Ann Martin** Children's Center offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. For information: 524-0821.

**The Y2K** session of "Baby Bounce and Toddler Tales," a free storytime program for families with children up to age 3 is every Wednesday at 7 p.m. from Jan. 5 through April 12 at the West Branch Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University Ave., near San Pablo. Babies and toddlers have a place in the library where they can make noise.

**The La Pena** Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., present ZunZun performing songs in Spanish from all over Latin America on Saturday, Jan. 8. All pro-

grams begin at 10:30 a.m. Tickets: \$4 adults, \$3 children (\$10 max per family.) Call 849-2588 for additional information.

**The Buddy Club** Children's Shows begins the new Millennia on Sunday, Jan. 9, 11 a.m. to noon, at the Albany Community Center Theater, 1249 Marin Ave. with Hilarious Jay the juggler. Jay drops everything as he tries to balance fake knives, bowling balls, audience members and even rubber chickens, all while riding a 6-foot unicycle. Tickets: \$7, under 2 free. For tickets, birthday party reservations

See CALENDAR, Page C7



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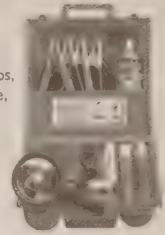
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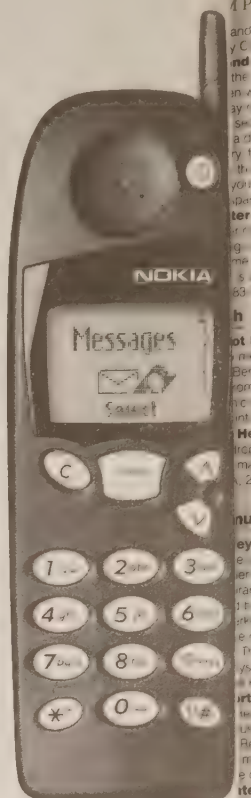
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## Calendar

PAGE C6

and show information, call The Club at 652-7469.

and their adult companions can enjoy the University of California Botanical Garden with Docent Lois Paul the last day of every month at 1 p.m. You will see a different continent or foreign country, find out what's special about the garden that grows there, and then draw your see. Call 643-2755 to reserve space.

**Winter Rats.** Julia Morgan's kid's winter camp program, offers swimming, skiing, dancing, acting, and field games some of its exciting activities. The program is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 683-7023 for additional information.

**Marie Tooth (CMT)** support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at Berkeley Library, 1125 University from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuromuscular disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

**Health and Community Education** in classes in dance, fitness, martial arts and more; University at 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8

## Community

**Art Museum.** Pacific Film offers a guided tour of Equal Partners and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Saturdays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-0808.

**North Berkeley Senior Center.** Hearst, presents a Millennium Party with music and song by the Tori Salto and Refreshments will be served at 2 p.m. For additional information call 644-6107.

**Anonymous** meet Fridays 7:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Center, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin Avenues, in the childcare room—parents helping the children. This organization for individuals who eat compulsively. For further information, call Katherine 525-5231.

**Washers.** do it now. Stand up and what you mean. Come practice today, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

**Nights** activists needed. Write the chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA. 94701.

**Buddies.** volunteers needed to volunteer work with people in stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact: Lipton, 644-8292.

**Healing clinic.** 7 to 9 p.m. Mon-Fri clinic at the Academy for Psychodrama in Berkeley, aura cleansing, relief. 1-800-642-9355.

**Project.** the Alcohol Research in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of various models of substance abuse treatment. Medical model day treatment and medical day treatment. By calling 1-495-8002 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

**Public Schoolyard.** an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley Middle School, seeks volunteer work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

**In-Action** lets you make friends around the world. Volunteer as a translation partner with a foreign UC student for one hour a week.

**at Berkeley.** Call 843-9716.

**Daytime Drop-in Center** in Berkeley, serving women who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless, volunteers. The Center is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

## Arts

**Landscapes.** by David Steinberg on display at the YWCA, UC-Berkeley, 2600 Bancroft Way, through Jan. 27. The acrylic paintings are from the Water's Edge series depicting in luminous detail the boundary between the water and the land. Viewing hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 4:30-6:30 p.m. for evening and weekend or additional information.

**Photolab Gallery.** 2235 Fifth St., features its exhibition of photographs by Photo Instructors from Oakland's One Art Center. The exhibit is free. Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sun-closed. Call 843-6999 for additional information.

**Lee and Monica Marini.** "Two in Creating," open their 2716 Rustic studio. Both women are artists skilled in their craft and currently sharing their positions at Park Day School. Each has spent the past 15 years living and loving the creative process. All work will be for sale. Additional information call 644-9341.

**Many Arts Committee** exhibits "The Light Paintings by Kenet" continuing through Feb. 24, at the Albany Community Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave. Call 524-9283 for additional information.

**Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archives.** 2625 Durant Ave., presents the third Matrix exhibition, "Terrence Malick/Matrix 182 supernova" through Jan. 30. Fernandez is a New York-based artist who creates surreal installations that manipulate the viewer's sense of physical space and architectural form. Call 642-4200 for additional information.

**Women in Summer** a solo exhibition by Carrie Lederer takes place at the Kennedy Arts Annex, 2956 San Francisco Ave., Berkeley. Gallery hours: Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information call 649-0499.

**Medical Center** presents

work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

**New Pieces** Gallery presents a list of artists for the year 1999. Located on Solano Avenue, New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m., except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

## Literary Events

**Angela Watrous** and Carole Honeychurch, co-authors of After the Breakup: Women Sort through the Rubble and Rebuild Lives of New Possibilities, celebrate the new year with a publication party for their new book, Thursday, Jan. 6, 7:30 p.m. Oakland Angela Watrous, an editor and freelance writer, earned a BA in literature from Mills College. Carole Honeychurch earned her BA in literature from UC-Berkeley, and a MA from Stanford.

**The Reading Edge** is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Allston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

## Meetings

**The El Cerrito Garden Club** will meet in the El Cerrito Community Center on Thursday, Jan. 13, 9:30 a.m. Bill Quarles, Co-director, Bio-Integral Resource Center and Managing Editor of BIRC Publications, will be guest speaker. His topic will be "Integrated Pest management in the Garden-Least Toxic materials, Resistant plants and Beneficial insects." Guest \$3 Call 758-2872 for additional information.

**Soroptimist International** of El Cerrito meet for Jan. 18, 12:15 p.m., at Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, El Cerrito, 7901 Cutting Blvd. Call Barbara Lanier, 527-7070 for additional information.

**The City Commons Club**, 2315 Durant Ave., meet Friday, Jan. 7. Speaker Martin Wachs, Ph.D., Transportation Institute, UC-Berkeley will speak on "How to Spend the Gas Tax Fund." Social hour begins at 11:15 a.m. Lunch: 11:45 a.m. Speaker begins promptly at 12:30 p.m. Price: \$11 or \$12. Call 848-3533 to make reservations if bringing more than one guest.

**The Richmond El Cerrito Branch** of the American Association of University

Women hosts its first meeting of the new year at the El Cerrito Masonic Center, 6922 Stockton Ave., Saturday, Jan. 8, 10 a.m. Writer Mary Mazzaro is the speaker. Guests are welcome. For additional information, call 526-1127.

**The Berkeley Camera Club** meets every Tuesday evening, 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Participants share slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. Call Wade for information, 531-8664.

**Speak Smart!** Join Beijing Express Toastmasters. The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2088 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

**Toastmasters Meeting:** Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

**Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS)** meets every Thursday evening at the First Baptist Church, Richmond, on Solano below Arlington. Call Betty Coates 235-0490 for more information.

**Joy of Yiddish:** Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

**The Berkeley Communicators** Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

**The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group** meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Dr. Brian Kaye, a rheumatologist, has treated many patients with various types of arthritis and will be available for questions. For additional information call 204-4503.

**Toastmasters** on Campus meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

**Public speaking** skills and metaphysics come together at Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

**Spirituality and Healing.** Voices of Healing Story Circles. Spiritually oriented healing group for people living with life-threatening illness. Meets second Wednesday of each month in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for information.

**State Health** Toastmasters Club meet every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 648-7750.

**Higher Alignment:** 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars cre-

ating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, (415) 661-5337; \$20.

**Alta Bates** Support Groups - Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

**Overeaters Anonymous**, a 12 step program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

**TOPS**, 9:30 a.m., Mondays; Take Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-8858.

**Avatar Metaphysical** Toastmasters: meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 643-7645.

**Toastmasters:** noon - 1 p.m. Tuesdays; stand up and say what you mean; practice with the toastmasters; 700 Heinz Ave., Berkeley, 883-6708.

**Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center** and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium on Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight way. Berkeley. Details: 204-4503.

## Music

**Contra Costa Choral** is soliciting new singers. Rehearsals for its new season,

"Made in America," start Jan. 10, 7:15 p.m. at the Hillside Community Church, 1422 Navellier St., in El Cerrito. New singers are accepted throughout the year. Contra Costa Choral is a non-profit community-based chorus whose mission is to bring high quality, enriching, moderately priced choral music in a variety of styles to Bay Area audiences. Call 527-2026 for more information.

**The New Century Chamber Orchestra** presents the work of three composers from Russia and Finland, Jean Sibelius, Joonas Kokkonen and Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky. The concert takes place on Thursday, Jan. 20, 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way. Tickets: \$30 and \$25. For additional information, call (415) 479-2000.

**Hausmusik** presents "A Handel Extravaganza: A Sumptuous Banquet of Musical Delights with Secular Songs, Cantatas and Trio Sonatas," on Saturday, Jan. 8, 8 p.m. at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington St., Albany. Tickets: \$17 general, \$14 students, seniors. Advance reservations recommended. Call 559-4670 for additional information. Wheelchair accessible.

**Instituto Pro Musica** de California heralds the arrival of the Three Kings, with its thirteenth Annual Dia de Los Reyes Concert Cycle, Saturday, Jan. 15, 8 p.m. at St. Joseph the Worker Church, 1640 Addison St. This is a joyous celebration of choral music from the Spanish-speaking world, performed by Coro Hispano de San Francisco and Conjunto Nuevo Mundo. Besides the Berkeley performance, the series includes performances on Saturday, Jan. 8, at St. Dominic's

Catholic Church in Benicia, Jan. 9, 4 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, Palo Alto, and ends Jan. 16, 4 p.m. at Mission Dolores Basilica, San Francisco. Tickets: \$15, general admission, \$12 seniors and students; with children 16 and under free. For additional information and to charge by phone call 415-431-4234.

**The Distaff** Singers, an established East Bay Women's chorus, is seeking new members. No auditions required, just a love of singing. Classical, pop, sacred, Broadway. Rehearsals Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Call Michelle 601-5624, or L.J. 482-1677.

**Ducksan Distones**, featuring Donald Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaiah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lankford, Drums and Larry Gustino on Fretless Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

**The Jazzschool** presents Sunday afternoon concerts at 4:30 p.m. at the Jazzschool LaNote Restaurant, 2375/77 Shattuck Ave. The concerts feature appearances by nationally-renowned artists and top jazz musicians living in the Bay Area. The talented faculty will be featured including Mike Zilber, Bill Douglass, Jenna Mammma, and Christy Dana. Tickets for Sunday concerts are \$12 general, \$10 students/seniors, \$6 Jazzschool students and children up to 12 years of age. Advance reservations are recommended. Call 845-5373 for additional information.

**Ashkenaz**, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents

See CALENDAR, Page C9

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# One life-threatening experience later, Community Folk returns

## Community Folk

By Clara-Rae Genser

I'm back. I hope you have missed me, as I have missed you.

The reason for my long absence was of some interest to you. A few weeks ago all the papers and air were reporting the amazing number of "mistakes" made in the hospitals in the East Bay. Well, I can attest to it. I was part of one such "mistake." It was a rather important one. It seems so many people have a bypass operation of late that more is hardly news. However, the fact that I was the one more is important, at least to me. And it then that the mistake was made. A 911 call, a quick ride to Kaiser's Oakland hospital, another ambulance ride to San Francisco, all passed quickly, it seemed, in the fog in which I found myself. I only knew that my child had gathered—all three of my plus spouses—and were supporting me.

Of course I was not conscious of the seven-hour operation (while children froze in the only waiting room available for them—the room in the entrance where they shivered in the icy

was only later that I learned the operation had ended successfully, with everybody breathing a sigh of relief. Until the next day, on the day after the bypass operation, I suffered a severe heart attack in which what had been a healthy heart was badly damaged. When they took me back in the operating room and opened me

up again they found the reason for the heart attack. It seems a stray staple had somehow found its way to the new artery. The one that was supposed to supply blood and oxygen to my heart. Somehow that staple (however did it get there?) had been put in the very worst place, and left there.

Although I was strongly medicated for the next several days, or weeks (?) some remarks did come through to me. I remember one doctor saying, "The things we did to that little body nobody should have to go through" and others, as I came hazily to the surface and asked questions, with such remarks as, "After what you went through, of course you don't remember. It will take a long time." I was able to tell them my name and what year it was, but it was all very dim and far away for a long time.

I do want to say that everyone was wonderful to me. The nurses and nurses aides were sweet and gentle. Many doctors came to check on me, and the concern was very real. My children were wonderful and were there almost all the time, both my children from Richmond and my daughter from up north in Fulton. Their employers were very kind and turned a blind eye to their long absences from work in order to be with me and make sure everything was be-

ing done correctly and well for me.

The second "mistake" took place when they suddenly decided that I had been in the hospital long enough and they were going to send me to a rehabilitation hospital. They called my son and gave him two names of hospitals in our area, and a very short time in which to choose one. He could only call and talk to them and chose the one that seemed more responsive. No one looked carefully at me to see if I was ready to be moved out of the hospital. I was not.

Another nightmare. The ride from San Francisco to San Pablo. Being brought into a small, dark hospital and dumped into a bed, belongings and all. And the despair on the faces of the hospital nurses and administrators as they looked at me and wondered what in the world they were going to do with me. Sick, frightened and helpless, I asked them to call 911. And as I was being lifted into the ambu-

lance, my son and daughter in law, fresh from a formal evening, came by and asked, in great surprise, "What is going on here?" Someone told them. I could only cower in the ambulance and thank heaven for the short ride to the Richmond Kaiser hospital.

Again, the people were wonderful to me. Doctors, nurses, aides, everyone. I felt cared for and cared about while I slowly gathered the strength I needed to get to the next stage. When I was released from the Richmond Kaiser to another rehabilitation hospital I was ready for it, and it worked well.

I am home now. The fine ladies who helped me learn to shower and care for myself are gone and I am on my own. Not a lot gets done around the house, but I do what I can and forgive myself for what I cannot do. It will get done—somehow.

Friends gathered around quickly, and I was deluged with

loving cards and messages, which meant so much to me. Many—almost too many—came to visit me. Howard Cohen, the cantor of our temple, was by my side often in the hospital, spurring me on to make an effort and gather my strength. A committee of my fellow congregation members saw to it that I had a delicious, healthy dinner each night, with the added joy of a short but lovely visit when the dinner was delivered.

And Kaiser? Well, my son, the lawyer, and the people of Kaiser are communicating. I feel that my life was broken off suddenly and was restarted at a much slower pace. But I am working on it. I

may even get my driver's license again, (it expired while I was in the hospital) I pray.

And I am ready to face the world and start bringing you more of the wonderfully interesting people who live in our community. Community Folk is ready to go!

I do have a file but somehow it is almost empty, so I need more of your input: interesting people, events, organizations, etc. Please write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443 Albany, CA 94706 or call 525-4585. My e-mail is still crgenser@aol.com. Let me hear from you.

## Calendar

FROM PAGE C7

**Jan. 7, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital DJ and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday nights 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. 694-1400 for additional information.**  
**Jan. 8, 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.** no partners necessary for one. Dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Near East and other lands. Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains St., 525-1542

**Doors**

**Writing Point** at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, offers "Scribble Time," a technique that helps participants understand themselves and to find focus. The group meets on Tuesdays by appointments and is open to YWCA members. Call 848-6370 for additional information, leave a message for Anne Levine

**Bay Regional Park Botanical Garden** in San Pablo, presents regular tours, seven days a week. Week days 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays, and Sundays 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Social tours by appointment. Call 841-1022. For a schedule of upcoming tours call 925-820-1021.

**Support**

**African Schizophrenia Association** - a support group for families of children with mental illness meet Tuesday, Jan. 18 from 7 to 8:45 p.m. at the Claremont Branch Berkeley Library, 2940 Benvenue. The group offers parents and other family members a chance to share information. For additional information, call ASA-AMI 841-8361.

**Grief Counseling Project** offers help for those who are overwhelmed with pain and grief associated with the death of a loved one. Many people suffer in isolation. The holiday season is especially difficult. No one is turned away. Call 889-1000.

**City of Berkeley Portable Meals** program desperately needs drivers to deliver meals once a week to homebound seniors. Call 644-8590.

**North Berkeley Senior Center** is also looking for volunteers to work in its gift shop, coffee bar and dining area three to five hours, one day a week. Call 644-4477.

**Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education** group presents Dorothea Dorenz, a certified massage and movement therapist, who teaches self-healing methods. This method is sensitive and adapted to people who are experiencing a great deal of discomfort, and to those who are not. Bring a small pillow, and wear

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**Stroke Support** Group for Stroke survivors, their families and friends. No advance reservations required. Meets the first Tuesday of each month, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Maffly Auditorium, Herick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way.

### Lecture/Workshop

**The North Berkeley Senior Center**, 1901 Hearst, offers a slide/lecture presentation on "The History of New York Yiddish Theater Music" by Meyer Halperin, Friday, Jan. 7, 1:15 p.m. The video of the Opera: "Christmas in Vienna" part 1 will be shown at 1 p.m. For additional information, call 644-6107.

**"Jobs in Nonprofits from A to Z"** is the topic of a workshop at the Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way, on Tuesday, Jan. 11, 3-4 p.m. The workshop is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. For more information, call 848-6370.

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# The Auto Section

The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

January 7, 2000

Section D

**Spare Parts** Chevy's Super Sport Roadster concept sure to turn heads [D2]

**New Models** Engineers rethink Nissan Maxima for new year [D3]

**Classified** Buy it, sell it, find it inside [D6]

## Pack pals along for fun in 2000 GMC Safari

Keane on Wheels

By Tom Keane

How would like to go on a Safari with seven friends? Not an African trek safari; this trip would be in the midsize 2000 Safari produced by GMC.

That's the trip I took this week. Seven friends and I took off to do some holiday shopping. The Safari is sort of a middle of the road vehicle in this sense. It offers more interior space than the average minivan so everyone was able to sit in reasonable comfort. Yet unlike a full-size van, this vehicle was more manageable when it came to parking in crowded shopping centers.

The Safari is equipped with the Vortec V6 engine that produces a modest 190 horsepower linked to an electronic four-speed automatic transmission. The GMC people point out that it is equipped with platinum-tipped spark plugs which allow the Safari to travel up to 100,000 miles before requiring a tune-up.

Another plus: the engine coolant is good for up to five years or 150,000 miles, which is a saving on the environment.

In spite of the weight of eight big bodies, the engine responded reasonably well. I doubt that I was getting the 16 city, 20 highway mileage listed as EPA fuel economy, but there was no difficulty entering a highway and getting up to full

See SAFARI, Page D2



THE 2000 GMC SAFARI comes equipped with the Vortec V6 engine that produces a modest 190 horsepower linked to an electronic four-speed automatic transmission.

Drive, She Said

By Denise McCluggage

"Some 20 percent of insurance claims are engendered by parking lot mishaps. Why are these lots so dangerous?"

## Park right to head off accidents

Taking your new car into a mall parking lot for the first time is like taking your first born to opening day at kindergarten. You know that this is a huge step into a world full of risks, yet it has to be done someday.

Statistics say you have more to worry about with the car. Some 20 percent of all insurance claims are engendered by parking lot mishaps. Why are these lots so hazardous?

Just look. Drivers disregard painted lines and aim willy-nilly where they want to go. They head upstream against pointing arrows as they troll for an empty

See PARKING, Page D2

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## SPARE PARTS

## New Chevy concept

Meet the Super Sport Roadster. It captures Chevy's heritage in a new kind of crossover vehicle with an open air sport car feel, plus storage and flexibility. The SSR dons a power retractable hardtop, revealing

an interior offering three passenger capability. The SSR incorporates a unique full-width grille bar, wide stance and distinct wheel oriented forms. This high performance crossover vehicle boasts a longitudinal V8, rear-wheel drive powertrain.

## Ease up on wet roads

Go slow on wet roads. It may take up to 10 times farther to stop on a wet road than on a dry one, according to professional race car driver Lyn St. James. Roads become slick and dangerous after a rainfall. Remember

that bridges and exit and entrance ramps can be icy when other areas are not.

## Head off blowouts

Nearly half the cars on the road have at least one seriously underinflated tire. The

largest reason for blowouts is underinflation. According to Mary Jackson, author of "Smarts," even a small degree — a per square inch — of underinflation crease a tire's life by as much as 10%. Checking tire pressure can prolong safety and your pocketbook.

## Safari

FROM PAGE D1

speed. And speaking of hauling a load, this two-wheel-drive Safari is capable of towing up to 6,000 pounds, which is about 500 pounds more than the 1999 version. For those who want better traction, and all-wheel drive model is available.

Another mechanical benefit is standard anti-lock brakes that have 200,000-mile/12-year durability/reliability. And for those who travel long distance, the 2000 model now has a 27-gallon fuel tank.

Had this shopping trek been with tots, the Safari has child seat anchors. Other safety devices are a remote panic alarm that is activated with the keyless entry fob. Incidentally, this vehicle has lockout prevention system.

Should the key be left in the ignition and the power lock button is pressed to lock the doors, all will lock except the driver's door.

There are two systems that control the use of battery power. Should an interior lamp be left on, it will shut off after 20 minutes to prevent the battery from draining down.

Although the exterior design is a bit boxy and old fashioned, there are many thoughtful features on the 2000 model. For example, I was able to take the key out of the ignition and the sound system remained on for

## SPECIFICATIONS

## 2000 GMC SAFARI PASSENGER VAN

- VEHICLE TYPE  
8-passenger, 3-door 2WD mid-size van
- BASE PRICE  
\$21,451 (as tested: \$24,920)
- ENGINE TYPE  
V6 Vortec 4300 w/SFI
- HORSEPOWER (net)  
190 at 4400 rpm
- TORQUE (lb-ft)  
250 at 2800 rpm
- TRANSMISSION

4-speed automatic w/overdrive

- WHEELBASE  
111 in.
- TREAD (front/rear)  
65 / 65 in.
- FUEL CAPACITY  
27 gal.
- EPA MILEAGE RATING  
16 city, 20 highway
- ASSEMBLY PLANT  
Baltimore, Md.
- STRONG FEATURE  
Interior roominess
- WEAK FEATURE  
Boxy

up to 20 minutes, or until a door was opened.

Had I forgotten to shut the head lamps or parking lamps off after removing the key from the ignition, chimes would remind me. In fact, chimes are used as a reminder along with telltale lights for such things as seat belts that are not fastened, or parking brakes that remain on.

When our group of shoppers returned to the Safari, each with arm loaded with packages, I was able to use the convenient dutch-doors at the rear of the Safari. The rear glass opens upward and two doors swing

out exposing a respectable amount of storage area.

Then off to our final stop for the Christmas tree, which we tied to the roof rack. The roof rack is part of a \$4,200 option package that includes a top quality audio system, tinted glass, dual remote mirrors, overhead console, and cast aluminum wheels.

All told, my \$21,451 tester had a bottom line of \$24,920. That price also included front and rear air conditioning, six-way power driver's seat, and high back front bucket seats.

## Parking

FROM PAGE D1

space. Intent on their search, they are oblivious to others equally intent. Maybe the wonder is why there are not even more dents and creases. You can lessen parking lot dangers for your car, both while it is in motion and stationary. When it is underway, the best protection is forcing yourself into a general awareness that sharpens your attention.

Keep your eyes moving — left, right and center — and don't forget your mirrors. The truth is that when you turn into a parking lot, you're not entering a safe haven from the hectic streets. Parking lots can be even more chaotic, so crank up your attention rather than letting it lapse.

## Avoid the unprotected end of a row

At row's end where you are exposed to vehicles at your side, as well as behind you, your car is frankly vulnerable.

## Seek out the protected end of a row

When the row ends with a curbing return or maybe a planted area you are blessed. Only one side of your car is exposed to another. Pull in closer to the protected side to give any car doors on the other side a fuller range.

## Park square

If necessary, maneuver back and forth to be parallel with the painted lines. Float in the center of your space no matter how cattywampus your neighbors are. Neighbors come and go and adjusting to their extreme can lead to greater extremes.

## Take only one space

Some drivers like to park their precious cars at an angle across two spaces. Consider this only if parking spaces are plentiful and the two spaces you take are at a far end of the lot. Understand that your taking two places could anger someone else enough to take a key to your paint job.

## Straighten your wheels

Leaving your wheels cocked at a sharp angle means that the first movement of your car when you return to back out can put you into your neighbor. And don't park next to a car with severely cocked wheels because that driver might collect your car before he can correct his aim.

## Avoid parking next to junkers

Drivers of cars that resemble scrunched-up paper bags rarely care what happens to other cars either.

## Avoid parking next to kidmobiles

Vehicles loaded with toys, car

seats and fast-food wrapped indicators of children. Many can't warn all of them in time flinging open doors (if she's and your car could collect). Of the traditional toters of minivans and minivans, are more menacing to your cause their doors swing open minivan doors slide.

## Park next to four-door, than two-door vehicles

When there's a choice, sedate sedans to nest with vehicles usually have wider than sedans (to make getting back easier). Wider doors, of swing out farther.

## Park headed outward, you can

When you find an empty with another at its nose through and park so you can out. It is usually safer to pull a parking space going forward to back out of it into traffic. Backing is a perilous maneuver doubly alert when you change. Before you get into your depart your parking spot, light poles, walls or fences that lurk in blind spots and do damage. Watch for any back (or pulling out) cars in the 15 feet directly behind you. You could for an unhappy surprise if all moving at the same time.

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# 2000 Nissan Maxima stronger, more stylish

By Jill Amadio

Nissan's new fifth-generation front-wheel drive Maxima, ready for the third millennium, has gone European. Designed with the kind of elegant styling back and front one admires in the top luxury cars from Germany, the United Kingdom and Scandinavia, the 2000 Maxima flagship sedan is understated externally, but high-performance within.

Moving away from too many Japanese carmakers' preferences for bland, homogeneous architecture, or adding too many design elements, Nissan's new Maxima creates a visual dramatic impact that distinguishes it from every other car in the company's lineup. As European cars have discarded the jellybean look for more exciting, edgy styling, Nissan has caught the mood and moved right in.

Nothing extraneous mars the fluid outline and smooth, sweeping profile. Even the sideview mirror design is restrained, joined neatly to the A-pillar. My favorite part of the car is the back end where gracefully designed taillights are sculpted to sit between the quarter-panel and bumper.

If you're a Maxima loyalist and discover your car budget every two years to the newer model, you'll find literally thousands of improvements in the new version versus the 1998 and 1999 Maximas.

While most of the changes are small and undetectable, the major change is beneath the new aerodynamic hood. You'll definitely feel the power once you press down on the pedal. A brand new V6 engine boasts horsepower to 222 ponies, thanks to air intake resistance reduction, while torque jumps to 217 lbs due in part to a rotary valve variable intake system.

The 3.0-liter DOHC 24-valve engine (the same as in the last generation of Nissan's 300ZX sports car) and making the 2000 Maxima the class leader, delivers 20 mpg city/28 mpg highway, in spite of a marked increase in performance.

Handling is a lot more responsive with an innovative rear suspension



NISSAN

THE 2000 MAXIMA boasts upgraded ABS brakes.

and a rear stabilizer bar, while control has been improved through changing the steering gear. Steering vibration has been cut due to more rigidity in the steering column.

Buyers said they wanted more sensitive brakes, so Nissan engineers came up with an anti-lock braking system that's been upgraded from an eight-bit unit to a 16-bit unit, giving drivers better control. While ABS is standard on all Maxima models, an optional Traction Control System is available, providing increased performance during starting, acceleration, turning, lane changes, and winter driving conditions.

In cases of wheel spin, the TCS works together with the ABS, sending signals to switch the automatic transmission shift schedule and reduce torque through fuel control. You may not need to know all these technical details, but rest assured the technology works.

While "sporty" and "fun to drive" are terms that have been so over-used they should be drowned in the ocean, the fact is that the new Maxima's high-performance engine and handling characteristics are indeed responsive enough to warrant calling it great to drive, and if you want true sportiness, you can order one with the kind of 17-inch wheels usually found on roadsters.

So what's inside? This five-passenger mid-size sedan sits on a larger wheelbase, measur-

ing 108.3 inches with an overall length of 190.5 inches, so the passenger compartment is bigger all around. Split fold-down, lockable rear seats are a convenience, and the center console that sweeps up into the dashboard puts controls and switches in more reachable positions.

Doors swing wider, the trunk opening has stretched, and driving is less fatiguing thanks to less noise, more ergonomically-designed seats and a steering wheel set at a more comfortable angle. The glass on all doors is thicker, and their seals strengthened, helping to keep out noise.

The best-selling V6 import since its debut in 1981, with 1.7 million on the road, the Maxima is at dealerships in three versions: the \$21,049 GXE, the \$23,649 SE and the \$26,249 GLE. All have the same V6 engine, and only the GLE has standard automatic transmission. The GXE and SE have a five-speed manual, with automatic optional.

Other features and options include heated four- or eight-way seats, wood trim, green-tinted glass, rear window defroster, sunroof, front and side airbags, remote keyless entry, child seat anchors, air conditioning, cruise control, tilt steering wheel, and a rear 12-volt power outlet. All in all, the Maxima is a fine sedan comparable to those several thousand dollars more expensive.

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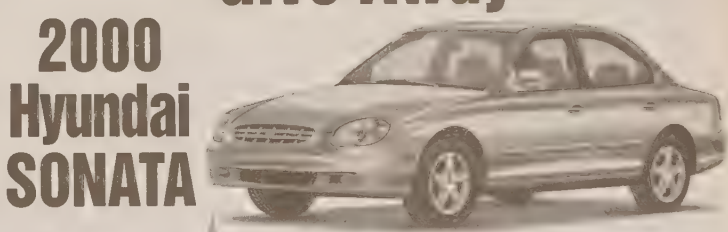
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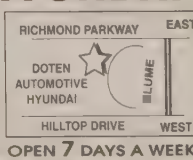
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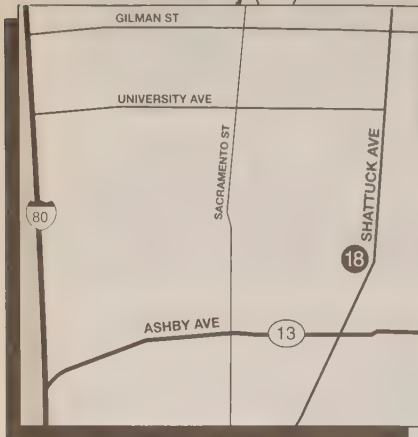
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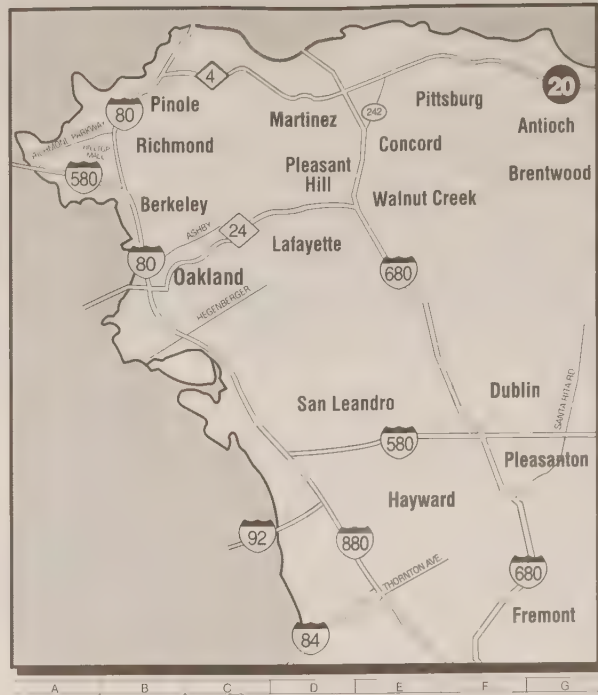
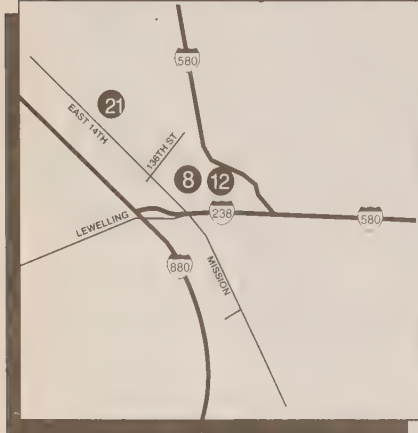
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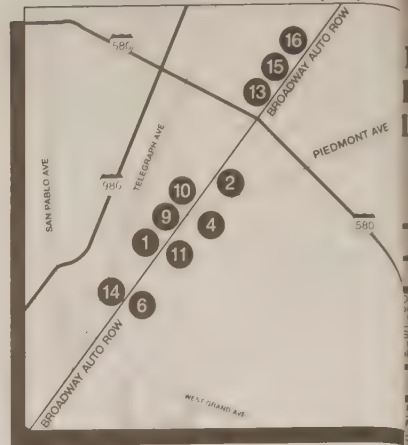
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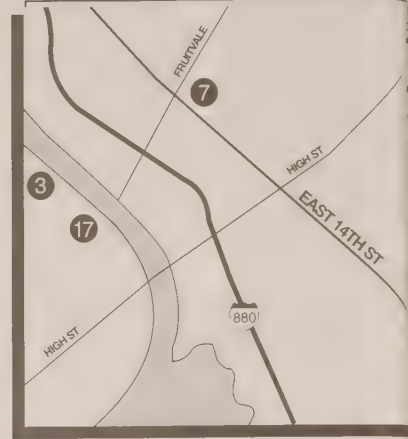
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**ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.** WC consulting firm needs multi-tasked person w/strong Word & Excel skills. Please Call Marci, New Concept, 925-939-3737. Fax 925-1162

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SHOPS AND SERVICES BEYOND THE HILLS  
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## Dessert secrets from Spago Las Vegas

By Natalie Haughton  
LOS ANGELES DAILY NEWS

If visions of sugarplums dance in your head this holiday season and you're looking for some show-stopping desserts to dazzle guests for a variety of festivities, turn to these creations culled from some of the season's newest dessert books. There are a wealth of memorable possibilities to deck holiday tables. All of the ideas are accessible to home cooks and feature easy techniques and presentation along with great taste.

Some of the recipes are shared by pastry chefs, others by magazine cook-book staffs and others by self-taught cooks.

You can bring fabulous chocolate desserts from Spago Las Vegas home with festive selections from pastry chef Mary Bergin that are found in her new book, "Spago Chocolate" (Random House; \$35), written with Judy Gethers. Gethers, a home cook, was responsible for breaking down the restaurant-size recipes to family-friendly amounts.

Several of the book's 130 recipes (which vary in difficulty) are served in the restaurant, notes Bergin, but in a different form. "Most of the desserts served in the restaurant are individual creations."

Bergin is a self-trained pastry chef who has been with Spago for 17 years. She started in West Hollywood before moving to the Las Vegas location seven years ago.

"Chocolate is the most popular flavor for desserts. Eight out of 10 people like chocolate." For birthdays and small weddings, Bergin's chocolate tiramisu cake tops the list of favorite requests.

Designed to appeal to novice as well as accomplished cooks, the book's straightforward step-by-step recipe instructions don't take anything for granted, says Bergin.

"It is really important to me to know that when I give someone a recipe that they will be able to make it. I know what it is like to be on the receiving end of a recipe that doesn't work and doesn't look anything like the picture accompanying it," she says.

Consistency is important, and it's crucial to read through a recipe prior to tackling it. With a well-written recipe, three different people should end up with the same excellent results, she says.

When it comes to successful chocolate desserts, Bergin advises cooks to use the best-quality chocolate available along with other fresh, top-quality ingredients. She's made chocolate desserts with varying qualities of chocolate — from Baker's to Valrhona. For home cooks, Trader Joe's pound plus (both bitter-sweet and milk chocolate available) is a good bet for the price.

When it comes to melting chocolate, be sure to use simmering, not boiling, water in a double boiler.

Although Bergin bakes pastries all day long, she often goes home and whips up desserts, sweets and dinner for her 17-year-old son and 15-year-old daughter. Her son fa-

Mary Bergin

Please see **DESSERT**, Page 2

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NEW YORK TIMES

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July 16, 2000	The Next Step	Lyle Schlosser
August 13, 2000	Open Session: Questions and Concerns	Lyle Schlosser
September 10, 2000	Four Tasks of Grief	Deacon Al Fleischer
October 15, 2000	Feelings: Guilt and Anger, etc.	Nancy Monfort
November 12, 2000	Coping With The Holidays	Lyle Schlosser
December 10, 2000	Open Session: Questions and Concerns	Deacon Al Fleischer

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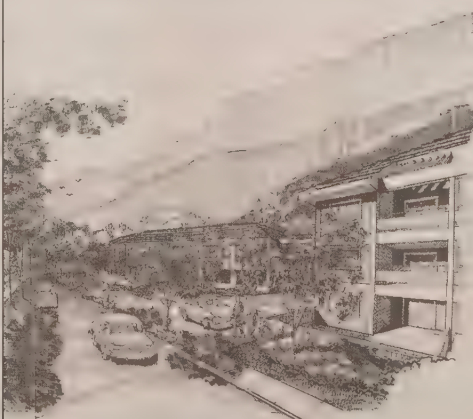
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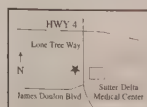


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## DESSERT

FROM PAGE 1

vors the Cookies and Cream Cheesecake from the book while her daughter likes the candies and chocolate chip cookies.

When making cookies at home, Bergin often forms the dough into walnut-size balls and freezes them in plastic zipper bags so her kids can bake them off when they want something sweet.

Among Bergin's favorite easy ideas are a Fudgy Chocolate Cake, Judy's Chocolate Date Cake, Chocolate Trifle, Chocolate-Almond Ice Cream Cake and Hazelnut Brownies. To celebrate Christmas, tradition at Bergin's home includes a completely edible gingerbread house along with a yule log, cookies, creme brulee, apple and pumpkin pies, meringue mushrooms and assorted cakes.

In "Bake It to the Limit" by Dede Wilson (William Morrow; \$30), you'll find basic recipes along with more elaborate, dressed-up renditions for a spectacular presentation. For instance, Wilson describes how to gussy up a Chocolate Peanut Butter Tart by piping a free-form peanut butter design on top of the ganache. She also tells how to paint Chocolate Espresso Shortbread cookies with edible gold and silver for a dazzling effect.

The premise of David Lebovitz's new book, "Room for Dessert"

(HarperCollins; \$30), is simple. He favors straightforward, highly flavored desserts, showing off the ingredients — things he likes to eat, he says. "It's the greatest hits of all the best recipes I've been making over the last 20 years of my life, personally and professionally."

Unlike some of his counterparts, Lebovitz, a former pastry cook at Chez Panisse in Berkeley for more than a decade, has geared the 110 sweet recipes for home bakers and tried to make them clear and easy-to-follow. "When I was choosing recipes to put into this book, I had two major criteria: The ingredients had to be accessible and the recipes had to be easy to duplicate in the average home kitchen."

Lebovitz avoided recipes requiring things no one wants to do at home, like tempering chocolate, spinning sugar or decorating with several pastry bags. His most complicated recipes are not as daunting as they appear. Some of the elements can be prepared in advance. No magical techniques, fancy equipment or hard-to-find ingredients are required.

When it comes to holiday desserts and baking, keep in mind that to ensure success, it's best to follow the recipe closely because many require more attention to detail and involve a more scientific approach to the ingredient mix than other recipes like chilis, soups and

See DESSERT, Page 3

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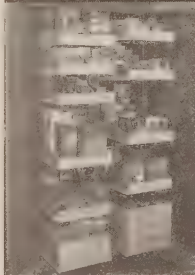
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## DESSERT

FROM PAGE 2

salads, where a little of this and that and intuitive cooking are fine. For those interested in reading more about baking basics and techniques, turn to "Good Housekeeping Baking" (Hearst Books; \$30), a wonderful new volume filled with color photos and more than 600 recipes — among them Christmas cakes like Brandied Buche de Noel, Stollen, Panettone and more. Now, for festive, indulgent and impressive desserts to deck the halls, some of these.

**Chocolate orbit cake**  
1/2 pound (2 sticks) butter  
12 ounces bittersweet chocolate  
6 eggs  
1 cup sugar  
Creme anglaise (optional). Position oven rack in center of oven. Butter a 9x2-inch round cake pan and line inside with a round of parchment paper. Set a large bowl over a pan of simmering water to create a double boiler. Cut butter and chocolate into small pieces and place in bowl to melt, whisking occasionally. Whisk together eggs and sugar

in another bowl. Thoroughly whisk in melted chocolate.

Four chocolate batter into cake pan. Place in a large baking pan and pour in warm water to reach halfway up sides of cake pan. Cover tightly with foil.

Bake in preheated 350-degree oven 1 hour and 15 minutes, until cake appears to be set and when you touch center, your finger comes away clean.

Remove cake from water bath and cool completely before serving, plain or with creme anglaise. Makes 1 (9-inch) cake, 12 to 14 servings.

From "Room for Dessert" by David Lebovitz (HarperCollins).

**Persimmon cake**

For this dense, moist cake, use very ripe persimmons that are completely soft and translucent. The larger, elongated Hachiya variety is best for baking, although the other common persimmon, the Fuyu, will do.

2 very ripe, medium-size persimmons  
1 cup walnuts, toasted  
8 tablespoons (1 stick) butter, at room temperature  
1 1/4 cups granulated sugar

See DESSERT, Page 4

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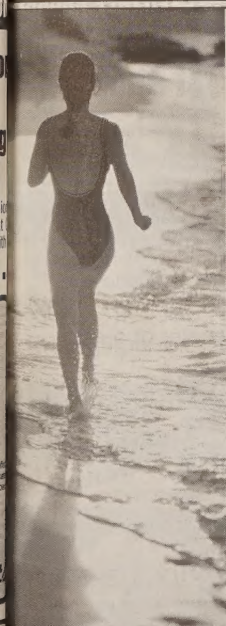
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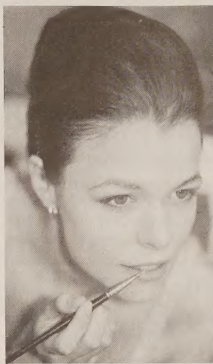
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## DESSERT

FROM PAGE 3

1/2 teaspoon vanilla  
2 eggs, at room temperature  
1 3/4 cups flour  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
3/4 cup dried currants, soaked in 1/4 cup Cognac OR brandy  
Powdered sugar for dusting cake  
Whipped cream  
Cut persimmons in half and scoop out pulpy flesh with a spoon. Puree pulp in a food processor or a blender, or pass through a food mill. You will need 1 cup puree for the cake. (You can freeze any leftover puree and use another time.)

Position oven rack in center of oven.

Line a 9-inch round cake pan or a 9 1/2-inch springform pan with a circle of parchment paper.

Finely chop walnuts.

Cream together butter and granulated sugar until light and fluffy, 3 to 5 minutes in a standing electric mixer. Add vanilla and beat in eggs, one at a time. Stop and scrape down sides of bowl and beat until eggs are completely incorporated.

Stir together flour, salt, baking

soda and cinnamon.

Stir 1/2 of persimmon puree into creamed butter mixture, then thoroughly mix in dry ingredients. Stir in remaining puree, walnuts and currants with the liquor. Pour batter into prepared cake pan.

Bake in preheated 350-degree oven about 45 minutes, until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Remove from oven and cool.

Remove cake from pan and peel off parchment paper. Dust with powdered sugar and serve with whipped cream. Makes 1 (9- or 9 1/2-inch) cake, 10 to 12 servings.

From "Room for Dessert" by David Lebovitz (HarperCollins).

## Chocolate macadamia cake

This recipe has only four ingredients. It can be assembled in minutes, and it produces a cake so intensely chocolate-flavored that the only thing you will want to serve alongside it will be softly whipped cream. Use the very best chocolate you can find. If you want, substitute walnuts or pistachios for the macadamias — or leave out the nuts altogether.

3/4 pound (3 sticks) unsalted butter

1 1/2 pounds bittersweet chocolate (see Note)

1 cup macadamia nuts, toasted  
8 eggs, at room temperature  
Whipped cream  
Position oven rack in center of oven.

Butter a 9 1/2-inch springform pan and line bottom with a round of parchment paper.

Cut butter into small pieces and chop chocolate into small pieces.

In a large bowl set over hot water, melt chocolate and butter together. Coarsely chop macadamia nuts.

With an electric mixer, beat eggs until a ribbon forms when you lift beater.

Fold eggs into melted butter and chocolate, then rapidly fold in nuts.

Transfer batter to lined springform pan.

Bake in preheated 400-degree oven 45 minutes. If cake appears to be getting too dark on top, drape a piece of foil over it and continue baking until cake begins to feel firm in center.

When cake has cooled, loosen sides of pan, then remove sides of springform pan. Invert cake onto a serving plate, lift off bottom of springform pan and peel away parchment paper.

Turn cake onto a serving plate.

Serve with whipped cream.

Makes 1 (9 1/2-inch) round cake, 10 to 12 servings.

## Cookies and cream cheesecake

The chocolate crumble is used not only as a crust but also as a layer and a topping. The result is a creamy cheesecake with a crunchy texture.

I find the easiest way to melt the white chocolate is to break it up into small pieces and place it in a small cup or bowl. Place the cup in the microwave oven, cover with a paper towel and heat chocolate 30 seconds at a time, stopping oven and stirring chocolate, continuing to heat until melted. It shouldn't take more than two or three 30-second periods.

## Chocolate crumble:

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
1 cup unsweetened cocoa powder  
1 cup granulated sugar  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
4 ounces (1 stick) unsalted butter, chilled and cut into 1-ounce pieces  
2 egg yolks  
3 tablespoons heavy whipping cream

## Cake:

1 1/2 pounds cream cheese, at room temperature, cut into 2-inch pieces  
1 cup granulated sugar  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
3/4 cup dairy sour cream

3 eggs  
2 teaspoons vanilla  
4 ounces white chocolate (see above)  
Position rack in center of oven.  
Butter or coat with vegetable oil spray bottom of a 9- or 10-inch springform pan. Line a bag with parchment paper. Set aside.  
For Chocolate Crumble: Combine flour, cocoa, sugar and transfer to bowl of processor fitted with a steel blade. Process with on and off pulses until mixture resembles coarse meal. Arrange pieces of crumble around flour mixture and until mixture resembles coarse meal.

Please see DESSERT, Page 3

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## DESSERT

FROM PAGE 4

In a small cup or bowl, whisk together egg yolks and cream. With processor running, pour mixture through feed tube, making certain to scrape out all liquid from cup. Machine run until dough begins to come together, about 1 minute. To make crust, spoon 2 cups of crumble into prepared pan and press evenly over bottom of pan. Round bottom of a 1-cup measuring cup is perfect for leveling crust, ensuring smooth edges.) Spread remaining crumble on prepared baking tray. Place springform pan and baking tray in oven. Bake in preheated 350-degree oven 10 to 12 minutes, or until

crumble is lightly toasted. Transfer to a rack to cool. When completely cool, wrap heavy-duty foil — or 2 layers of regular foil — around bottom and halfway up outside of springform pan, pleating foil to tighten. Break up crumble on parchment paper, using your hands or a fork; set aside.

For Cake, place cream cheese, sugar and salt in a large bowl of an electric mixer fitted with a paddle or beaters. On medium speed, beat until smooth, stopping often to scrape down sides of bowl and under blade with a rubber spatula. Turn speed to high and continue to beat until nice and creamy. Stop mixer and add sour cream, eggs and vanilla; beat 3 minutes longer, again stopping mixer and scraping down sides of bowl and under blade as necessary. Scrape in

melted chocolate and continue to beat until well combined and smooth. You should have about 6 cups of mixture.

Pour 1/2 of mixture (3 cups) into springform pan. Sprinkle 1/2 of crumble (1 cup) over; pour in remaining 3 cups mixture and cover entire surface with remaining 1 cup crumble. Set springform pan in center of a slightly larger baking pan with sides. Pour enough hot water into larger pan to reach halfway up sides of springform pan, but not above foil. Carefully place both pans in oven.

Bake in preheated 350-degree oven 1 hour. Cover cake loosely with foil and continue to bake 20 minutes longer, until center of cake is slightly firm. (Check water level after 30 minutes, making certain there is enough water in pan.)

Carefully remove both pans from oven and transfer springform pan to a rack to cool. Fold foil down sides of pan, helping cake to cool. When cake has cooled remove foil and allow cake to cool completely. Cover pan loosely with a clean piece of foil and refrigerate overnight.

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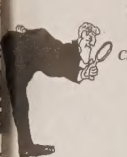
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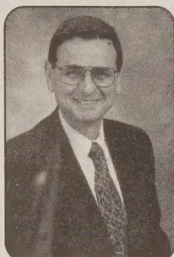
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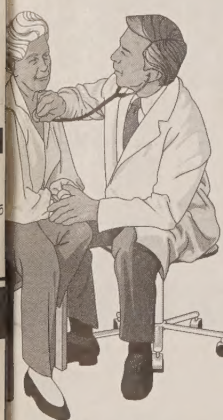
Family Practice &amp; Sports Medicine

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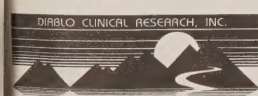


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For more information about this study, please call:



Greg Plummer at  
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(925) 930-7267

Do you suffer from  
Chronic tension headaches?

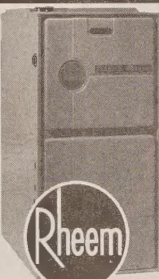
East Bay Neurology is conducting a research study of individuals between the ages of 18-65 who suffer from chronic tension type headaches. The medication being studied is Botox, an injectable drug.

If you suffer from tension type headaches, you may be eligible to participate in this study. For more information, please contact the research coordinator at (510) 869-2377. If you qualify to participate in the study, the medication will be provided to you at no cost and compensation for time and travel will also be provided.



Please call:  
East Bay Neurology  
(510) 869-2377

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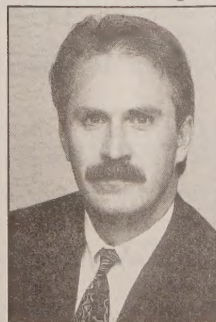
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# The Spirit of Saint Mary's is...

## Student-Athlete Stars Like Kisha & Misha Dosty

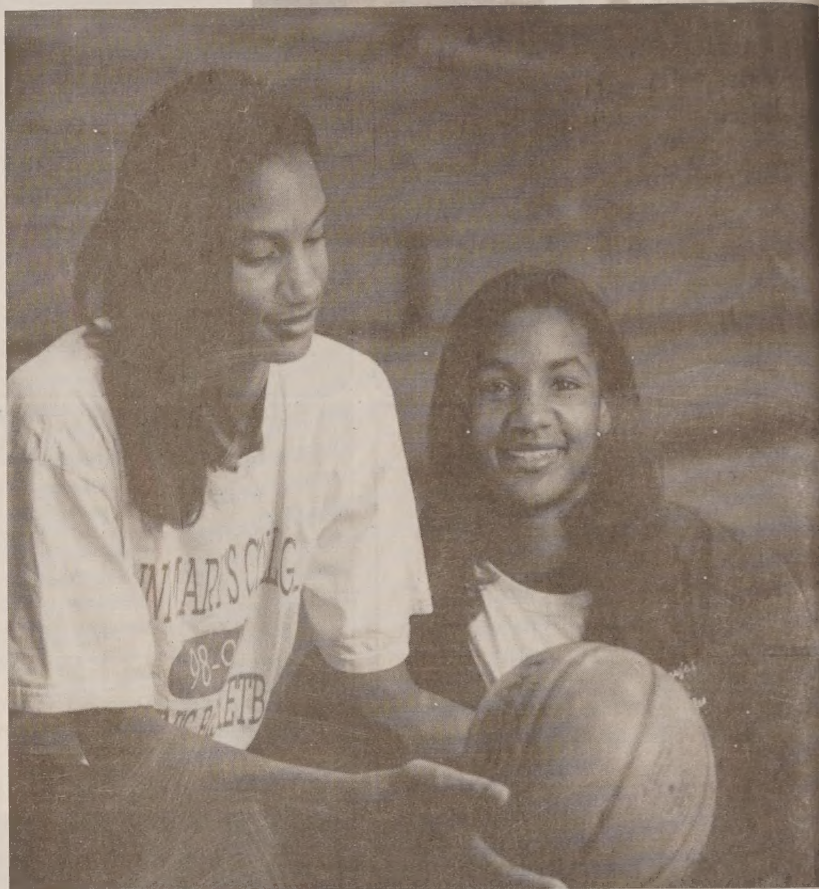
**Gael Hoopsters.** Tall, talented, and full of fun, Jerkisha (Kisha) and Jermisha (Misha) Dosty are a one-two Gaelstorm on the court. They were both high school all-stars, and were heavily recruited by plenty of colleges. Saint Mary's won out, because they liked the energy on the basketball team, Coach Kelly Graves and the college's academic reputation.

**On Life and Learning.** Both Dostys give high marks to the Saint Mary's faculty, "always willing to take time to help." Both love the worlds of words and ideas; Misha is a budding writer, and Kisha has thrown herself into the rigors of Collegiate Seminar. Ask her about French philosopher and mathematician Rene Descartes and she's off and running.

**On Being Part of the Community.** "We go off-campus for shopping, bowling, movies, hanging out with our friends," says Misha. "People come up to us while we're shopping and say, 'Hey, I've seen you play. Great game!'"

**On Playing to the Crowd.** "I'm amazed that we've got so many fans in the community. Parents bring their elementary school-age kids up to us after the game. We sign autographs and give them pictures. They're excited to meet us – and we're thrilled they're in the stands," says Kisha.

**Sports at Saint Mary's.** This time of year means men's basketball at Saint Mary's too, with plenty of excitement expected from the Gael squad. Ten letter-winners are coming back, along with Brad "Big Continent" Millard returning to the court, as the men pursue a place in the NCAA Tournament. Come spring, stay tuned for men's baseball and women's softball, with Gael teams set to make a strong showing on the diamond. 24/7, you can get all the sports news at the SMC Sports Information Hotline (510) 982-0244 or by visiting our website.



**WWW.STMARYS-CA.EDU**

*Drop by Saint Mary's and catch Misha and Kisha, their teammate Tracy Morris, 1999 West Coast Conference Tournament crown-holder, and the rest of the team. The Spirit of Saint Mary's means "welcome" to our neighbors. Check out the season schedule for all Gael sports under Athletics at [www.stmarys-ca.edu](http://www.stmarys-ca.edu).*

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